

Tel (056) 7785532 Email: <u>uhwpq@hse.ie</u>

Oifig na Ben O'Sullivan, Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin Ospidéal na hOllscoile Port Láirge agus Ospidéal Ortaipéideach na Coille Críne FSS Phort Láirge agus LochGarman Office of Ben O'Sullivan Chief Executive Officer University Hospital Waterford and Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital HSE Waterford Wexford

28th October 2025

Mr Mattie McGrath TD Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 53050 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children from South Tipperary who have been to ophthalmology department; the waiting times for children's ophthalmology appointments in Waterford for patients from South Tipperary; the criteria used for patients from South Tipperary to be seen by the ophthalmology department in Waterford; if patients will be reimbursed for private eye care where they cannot access an appointment with ophthalmology services in south Tipperary and Waterford; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGrath

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I can confirm that University Hospital Waterford does not gather details of the criteria used for patients from South Tipperary to be seen by the Ophthalmology Department. I can further confirm that UHW does not actively gather data regarding patients given/referred for appointments with Ophthalmology Services in the Community via UHW.

I trust the above is satisfactory but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ben O' Sullivan General Manager University Hospital Waterford Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital