

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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Deputy O'Callaghan, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 54515/23 To ask the Minister for Health the number of people in each LHO area waiting for an ophthalmology appointment in primary care as of 1 December 2023 or the latest date available; and the number waiting less than 6, 6-12, 12-18 and more than 18 months.

-Jim O'Callaghan

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (54515/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality services to all eligible service users. In 2023, there were 99,872 patients seen by HSE Primary Care Ophthalmology services. Primary Care Operations is focused on improving access to care in order to reduce waiting times for patients. This includes monitoring the waiting list on an on-going basis in the context of available resources.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the Ophthalmology waiting list in each LHO area, as at the end of February 2024 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 - Ophthalmology Waitlist as at the end of February 2024

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care **National Community Operations**