



6th March 2024

Deputy Darren O'Rourke,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 1996/24 - To ask the Minister for Health, the primary care waitlists in Meath in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 by area in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Darren O'Rourke

Dear Deputy O'Rourke,

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 outline the position as follows;

2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dietetics	284	240	231	342	360	273	292	388	396	470	451	458
Occupational Therapy	404	391	381	384	352	401	476	542	526	548	544	584
Physiotherapy	1809	1791	1152	1296	1289	1347	1586	1672	1796	1885	2022	2190
*Podiatry												
Speech & Language Therapy	615	651	669	663	1032	1117		1274		1399	1422	1535
2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dietetics	618	582	550	603	615	605	576	596	701	707	693	649
Occupational Therapy	583	515	540	543	667	654	811	651	628	606	655	703
Physiotherapy	2143	2077	2193	2354	2415	2752	2868	3025	3107	3103	3070	3003
*Podiatry												
**Speech & Language Therapy	1268	1307	1268							447	771	743
2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dietetics	1069	744	841	797	939	835	910	865	1027	694	771	741
Occupational Therapy	731	783	794	828	857	895	959	948	1202	1268	1383	1434
Physiotherapy	3011	3124	3284	3260	3207	3050	3219	3321	2990	3489	3401	3101
Podiatry	318	295	291	281	260	276	271	298	303	304	278	275
Speech & Language	413	554	612	659	557	552	608	608	660	658	773	731
2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dietetics	853	868	824	872	871	1249	1216	1186	1125	1065	1023	945
Occupational Therapy	1424	1455	1540	1564	1617	1658	1647	1821	1409	1292	1227	1252



Physiotherapy	2992	3118	3232	3265	3220	3102	2978	3371	3401	3047	3038	3024
Podiatry	279	277	296	319	335	343	375	353	374	377	365	364
***Speech & Language Therapy	999	755	920	1225	1050	1110	1068	1108	1159	1174	1203	

*Please note there are no stats available for Podiatry for 2020 and 2021 as staff were redeployed on a full time basis to COVID-19 response

** Some 2021 SLT stats are not available as impacted by Cyber attack and remain inaccessible

***December 2023 stats are not available yet

Please be advised the Physiotherapy and Speech & Language Therapy figures are a community return and include Primary Care, Older Persons and Disability services. Redeployment of staff to the COVID-19 response impacted on waiting lists on all disciplines.

The National Access Policy implementation has led to an increase in child health referrals into Primary care.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Ruane
Head of Primary Care Services
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation