



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.  
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,  
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,  
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682  
E: [community.primarycare@hse.ie](mailto:community.primarycare@hse.ie)

18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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

**PQ 3520/24 To ask the Minister for Health the total number of children and their average waiting time, on speech and language therapy waiting lists across all CHOs, sub divided in tabular form, by county and by local HSE designated service area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**-Fergus O'Dowd**

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Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (3520/24) 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 185,770 patients seen by HSE Primary Care Speech and Language Therapy 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 Speech and Language Therapy waiting list for children in each LHO area, as at the end of February 2024 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – Speech and Language Therapy Waitlist for Children 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