



23/05/2024

Deputy Patrick Costello,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 13132/24 To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses for the Dublin south central area; the number of vacancies; the population of children in the catchment area of each; the average wait time to get an appointment, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Costello,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm that the Dublin South Central area encompasses parts of the Dublin South City, Dublin South West, and Dublin West Nursing Teams. The below table is the update regarding staffing. The average waiting time for appointments can vary as the PHN provides a service to children under 5 years, this includes appointments for children 72 hrs post-hospital discharge up to developmental checks 46-48 Months. Unfortunately, in some areas, the Nursing service is offering a P1 service only, as per the National Caseload Prioritisation Procedure for PHN.

Community Health Network	Number of Public Health Nurses	Number of vacant Public Health Nursing Posts	Population of 0-4yrs – Census 2022
Dublin South City (South Inner City, Pearse Street, Rialto, Rathmines, Rathgar, Terenure, Rathfarnham, Ballyboden)	29.3 WTE	9.7 WTE	8,434
Dublin South West (Crumlin Walkinstown, Kilnamanagh, Tymon, Millbrook, Firhouse West Tallaght, City West)	24.9 WTE	12.1 WTE	10,255
Dublin West (Clondalkin, Lucan, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Inchicore)	22.5 WTE	14.6 WTE	8,783

I trust this information is of assistance to you but if you have any queries or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Kearney
Head of Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare