



27/11/2024.

Deputy Réada Cronin,
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 45571 24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in CHO7; the number waiting less than 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cronin,

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 the below information in relation to speech and language therapy services:

| Dublin South City | 0-4 months | 4-8 months | 8-12 months | 12-18 months | 18-24 months | 24 + months |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Waiting Initial Assessment | 75 | 18 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Waiting Initial Therapy | 46 | 51 | 20 | 23 | 12 | 2 |
| Waiting Further Therapy | 111 | 61 | 85 | 119 | 21 | 1 |
| Kildare West Wicklow | 0-4 months | 4-8 months | 8-12 months | 12-18 months | 18-24 months | 24 + months |
| Waiting Initial Assessment | 581 | 460 | 485 | 288 | 93 | 8 |
| Waiting Initial Therapy | 45 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Waiting Further Therapy | 89 | 39 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 0 |
| Dublin West | 0-4 months | 4-8 months | 8-12 months | 12-18 months | 18-24 months | 24 + months |
| Waiting Initial Assessment | 143 | 191 | 220 | 282 | 45 | |
| Waiting Initial Therapy | 50 | 50 | 15 | 18 | 1 | |
| Waiting Further Therapy | 92 | 42 | 32 | 75 | 24 | |

| Dublin South West | 0-4 months | 4-8 months | 8-12 months | 12-18 months | 18-24 months | 24 + months |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Waiting Initial Assessment | 143 | 161 | 160 | 114 | 43 | 0 |
| Waiting Initial Therapy | 76 | 70 | 56 | 43 | 6 | 3 |
| Waiting Further Therapy | 132 | 186 | 155 | 112 | 7 | 1 |

Unfortunately, the Speech and Language Therapy waiting lists are longer than desired. Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West, and Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare areas are working to address the long waiting lists which are impacted by staff vacancies. The HSE continue to review service needs and prioritise services for recruitment in line with the HSE's Pay and Numbers strategy. Every effort will be made to improve access and reduce waiting lists for the local population in line with this strategy.

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
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Dublin & Midlands