

23.10.17

15 Deputy C.S. Alves of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding number of non-emergency visits to the Accident and Emergency department (OQ/203/2023)

Will the Minister state the weekly number of non-emergency visits to the Accident and Emergency Department by persons aged under 18 during normal working hours from 1st August to 1st October this year and how these compare to the same time last year?

Deputy K. Wilson (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

During August and September 2023 there was a weekly average of 39 patients under the age of 18 attending A. and E. (Accident and Emergency) during normal working hours who were triaged as non-emergency. This compares to an average of 40 across the same period in 2022 for the same cohorts. Data for that has been taken from 2 different systems, so it may be subject to some differences in recording, and the time period requested includes summer holidays and, therefore, may include figures that involve more visitors to the Island.

4.15.1 Deputy C.S. Alves:

There was not much difference between those numbers, does the Minister believe that enough has been done to communicate to members of the public that G.P. (general practitioner) visits are currently free of charge for children under 18?

Deputy K. Wilson:

We continue obviously to encourage people to access these services but we will have a look at that again and I will talk with my colleague, the Minister for Social Security, who has obviously been instrumental in making this happen, and we will see what we can do to improve things if it is still a problem.