



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,  
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17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019

Deputy Tom Neville TD  
Constituency Office  
Main Street  
Rathkeale  
Co. Limerick

**RE: PQ 15375/19**

*To ask the Minister for Health, the number of children on the waiting list for an ASD assessment with West Limerick Children's services; the number of children that have been assessed to date in 2019 (details supplied); the expenditure in this area for 2019; his plans to bring much needed improvements in the assessment process to reduce the time children have to wait to be assessed; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

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Dear Deputy Neville

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 the following outlines the position.

The number of children on the waiting list for ASD assessment with West Limerick Children's Services is 91. There are 56 on the waiting list for the Early Intervention Team and 35 for the School Age Team. Some of the children on the waiting list have not had an initial assessment to determine if they meet the criteria for ASD assessment. 10 Assessments have been carried out to date in 2019.

All these assessments are carried out by the Children's Team's as part of their overall work, therefore it is not possible to quantify the expenditure related to ASD assessment as it is integral to the teams overall work.

There are plans to provide additional posts to the Children's disability teams to address both the Progressing Disability Model of Service and Assessment of Need.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely

  
Paschal Moynihan  
Head of Service - Social Care