



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

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22nd October 2019

Deputy Jackie Cahill
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
e-mail: jackie.cahill@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 40757/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children diagnosed with early behaviour disability in County Tipperary in the past five years in tabular form; the number of children in County Tipperary on a waiting list to be assessed; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Information received from County Tipperary which includes both Community Healthcare Area 3 (HSE Mid West) and Community Healthcare Area 5 (HSE South East Community Healthcare) informs that is not possible to provide information on the number of children diagnosed with early behaviour disability.

While many children on disability caseloads and waiting lists will experience a behavioural difficulty as part of their diagnosis and overall presentation, however none of these children will be diagnosed as having a behavioural disability.

Behavioural difficulties manifest from such things as frustration at an inability to communicate, difficulty in formulating appropriate emotional responses or difficulty responding to sensory information within their environment. In addition, these behaviours may come and go to a greater or lesser extent throughout these children's lives and into adulthood.

Children with a specific diagnosis such as AD/HD or ADD would usually be seen through CAMHs services in the area.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Cathal Morgan, Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations**