



Eugene Murphy, T.D.,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

23rd September 2019.

PQ 37400/19

'To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on a waiting list for the HSE Galway and Roscommon Autism Services to date in 2019, in tabular form; the average length of waiting periods; the numbers waiting in excess of 3, 6, 12 and 18 months respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter'.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to PQ 37400/19 uploaded on the PAD System on 16th September 2019 and due for response on the 1st October 2019 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning 'the number of children on a waiting list for the HSE Galway and Roscommon Autism Services to date in 2019, in tabular form; the average length of waiting periods; the numbers waiting in excess of 3, 6, 12 and 18 months respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter'. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

The Galway Roscommon ASD has two waiting lists – one for Assessment (those who have not received a diagnosis of ASD) and an Intervention waitlist (for those who have an ASD diagnosis).

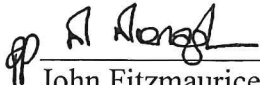
In response to the long waiting times experienced by children and families, a Waiting list initiative was established in 2017. Over a hundred children have been offered an outsourced diagnostic assessment. The waiting time for diagnostic assessment has, consequently, reduced from almost two and a half years to approximately one year. A Social Skills group has also been offered to over 200 children on the Intervention wait list.

Details of wait times are listed in the table below:-

Galway Roscommon ASD Service Sept 2019					
Waiting List	In excess of 3 months	In excess of 6 months	In excess of 12 months	In excess of 18 months	Total
Waiting Assessment	23	35	27	8	93
Waiting Initial Therapy	25	49	60	145	279
Total					372

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,



John Fitzmaurice,
General Manager,
Community Healthcare West.