



Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar
ag treastal ar Ghailimh,
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí um Chúram Sláinte

An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim, Co. na
Gaillimhe

T: 093 37933 / 091 775923 R: social.carecho2@hse.ie

Head of Social Care

Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.

Tel: 093 37933 / 091 775923 Email: social.carecho2@hse.ie

(093) 37951

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

26th September 2019.

PQ 37401/19

'To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the lengthy waiting periods for children to access services through the HSE Galway and Roscommon Autism Services; and if he will make a statement on the matter'.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to PQ 37401/19 uploaded on the PAD System on 16th September 2019 and due for response on the 27th September 2019 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning 'the steps he is taking to address the lengthy waiting periods for children to access services through the HSE Galway and Roscommon Autism Services; 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 current caseload has two waiting lists. The Assessment waiting list has 99 children waiting for a diagnostic assessment.

The intervention waiting list has 196 children who are active with 375 children waiting for support. The service is planning to open approximately 15 cases in the coming weeks.

Please be advised that in response to the long waiting times experienced by children and families, a Waiting list initiative was established in 2017. Over one 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.

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.