



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Disability Service  
South East Community Healthcare  
Health Service Executive  
Lacken  
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Kilkenny  
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Telephone 353 56 7784319

28<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 18521/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of autism spectrum disorder units that cater for County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ 18522/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of autism spectrum disorder unit places in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ 18523/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on waiting lists for places within an autism spectrum disorder unit in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Mythen

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed the matter and the following composite reply is the current position.*


Disability services in the South East Community Healthcare (SECH) area provide a range of multidisciplinary supports and services for children with disabilities. There have been significant year on year increases in the number of children applying for assessments including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It is acknowledged that given increased referral rates and demands for assessments and interventions by the Disability Services, there is a requirement for additional resources to meet current need.

Disability Services within SECH do not have specific facilities or units that provide services to clients with a diagnosis of ASD however, the multidisciplinary teams within HSE Disability Services have an agreed process to carry out ASD assessments and provide interventions where practicable and appropriate.

Where an individual, either an adult or a child, has a diagnosis of ASD they are referred to an ASD Liaison Nurse who will make onward referrals to the appropriate clinical department for assessment and intervention. The ASD Liaison Nurse will also review each individual in terms of their requirements which may include residential/respite services, day services and/or home support services. In general the needs of individuals in SECH, with a diagnosis of ASD, are catered for within the existing Disability Services both statutory and non-statutory bodies.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
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**Ms. Anne Ennis**  
**Acting/ Head of Service, Disability Service**  
**South East Community Healthcare**