



Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais,
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Milaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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Holly Cairns
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 30351/20

“To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the reassignment of 3.5 clinicians from the South Kildare Children's Disability Network Team to address the backlog for assessment of need for children with a disability in the south County Kildare and west County Wicklow area; if his attention has been further drawn to the impact it will have on waiting times for children and families receiving interventions from that team or that are waiting for services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

-Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE identified the need to address the backlog of Assessment of Needs as a priority in 2020 to support children on these waiting lists to access the intervention they require. This project resulted in the loss of 3.5 posts from the Kildare Children's Network Team in KARE.

The Head of Service for Disability services in Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare approved funding to backfill for the posts that have been redeployed into the statutory Assessment of Need process on an interim basis. KARE are currently in the process of recruiting staff for this purpose.

The OT post referenced has been recently filled, and it is intended that this will help address the priority needs of children attending this service.

I trust the above information is of use to you and if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Jacob
Head of Service, Disability Services
Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare