

22nd June 2021

Deputy Thomas Gould,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ 19264/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for an assessment of needs in Cork North Lee Services in March 2020 and in April 2021.”

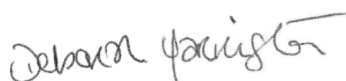
Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I wish to apologise for the delay in responding to your request. The Disability Services's are in receipt of significant volumes of correspondence from multiple sources due to the recent HSE cyber attack at this time and are experiencing associated delays in responding.

A new National Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was introduced on the 15th January 2020 in relation to the assessment process. All applications received after the 15th January 2020 were referred to stage 2, if appropriate, for a Preliminary Team Assessment in line with the National Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which will give a determination of a Disability and outline recommendations for interventions. Disability Services can confirm the applicants who applied for an Assessment of Need (AON) under the Disability Act (2005) in Cork North Lee Services in March 2020 had their Preliminary Team Assessments (PTA) completed in January 2021. This was within a 10 month timeframe which was slightly delayed due to Covid-19 and has now been cleared. All Applicants in April 2021 are on target to have their Preliminary Team Assessments (PTA) completed within the statutory timeframe of 6 months.

I trust this clarifies the situation for you.

Yours sincerely



Ms. Deborah Harrington,
Interim Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare