



26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Ms Denise Mitchell, TD  
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Head of Service for Disability,  
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Dublin North City & County,  
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road,  
Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 D8H0.

**RE: PQ ref 8618/21 - AON - numbers waiting in tabular form**

‘To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting an assessment of need in CHO9; and the number waiting more than 6, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively in tabular form.’

Dear Deputy

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

CHO DNCC (CHO9)	
Time Bracket	No of Clients
+6 Months	552
+12 Months	528
+18 Months	265
+24 Months	52
<b>Total</b>	<b>1397</b>

The above data comprehends children who have commenced the Assessment of Needs process in Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC).

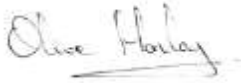
CHO DNCC has a significant waiting list for Assessment of Need (AON). This waiting list is caused by a growing number of local factors driving this demand, namely the increasing child population and growth in terms of children presenting with complex needs. All applications and assessments through Assessment of Need are dealt with strictly in order of date of application.

CHO DNCC are pleased to confirm we have received significant funding specifically to deal with our waiting list. A robust plan has been developed which includes availing of resources from within the HSE and from voluntary and private service providers to ensure this waiting list is eliminated as quickly as possible. Progress has been achieved, albeit not at the pace we would wish due to a number of factors including the availability of suitably qualified staff and concerns from parents in attending face to face meetings due to current restrictions.

I would like to assure the Deputy that eliminating the waiting list is receiving the highest priority and attention by the Head of Service and the Chief Officer. Weekly reports are furnished to manage and monitor progress. Each CHO is required to submit progress reports to the Department of Health and ultimately the Minister who has a keen interest in the delivery of this initiative in the shortest timeframe.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Olive Hanley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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**Ms Olive Hanley**  
**Head of Service for Disability**