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3rd February 2021

Deputy Pádraig O'Sullivan TD, Dáil Éireann, Dublin 2.

PQ ref no. 2810/21

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children in the Cork North Lee area that have been impacted by the redeployment of disability clinicians to address the assessment of need backlog; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parlimentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Disability Services wish to advise that Assessment of Need (AON) has been deemed a Priority 1 (P1) essential service during COVID-19. Therefore, no clinicians involved in the AON special scheme to address the backlog of assessments have been redeployed. Resulting with no children in the North Lee area been impacted and appointments for assessments are continuing to be offered.

I trust this clarifies the situation for you.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Deborah Harrington

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A/Interim Head of Disability Services, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

