

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine Aonad <u>4A</u> – Áras Dargan An Ceantar Theas An Bothar Mileata Cill Mhaighneann BÁC 8

> Acute Operations Health Service Executive Unit 4A - The Dargan Building Heuston South Quarter Military Road Kilmainham Dublin 8.

29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy Mark Ward TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ 56875/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting on a hospital-based medical or surgical service; the average waiting time after the completion of an assessment of needs by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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

Unfortunately Acute Operations cannot offer a response to this question. Hospital based medical or surgical services are based on referral and consultation within the Acute setting and are not influenced or determined by a child's Assessment of Need (AON).

An AON is a screening assessment carried out via Community and Social Care Disability Services, to gather information to determine the nature and level of difficulty experienced by a child in respect of a disability. It is not a diagnostic assessment.

I trust this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

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Carol Ivory General Manager Acute Operations