



Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
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14th December 2021

Deputy Sorca Clarke,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: sorca.clarke@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 58519/21

To ask the Minister for Health if the 27 additional expert staff to process assessments of needs were filled after funding for these additional staff was announced in Budget 2021.

HSE Response

The Disability Act (2005) provides for an Assessment of Need for persons suspected of having a disability.

Since June 2007, the HSE has been obliged to provide such assessments for children born on or after 1st June 2002.

Arrangements to extend eligibility to young adults aged 18 to 19 years are currently being finalised.

The HSE National Service Plan for 2021 included, subject to Government approval, the recruitment of 27 staff to support Assessments of Need for young adults aged 18 to 19 years. This includes one Assessment Officer, one Liaison Officer and one clerical officer for each of the nine Community Healthcare Organisations. The HSE are currently finalising the job descriptions for these new posts and the Standard Operating Procedure for the assessment of the young adults 18 to 19 years and will be in a position to advertise these posts over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

Ms Deirdre Scully
Assistant National Director, Change Planning and Delivery