



**Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do
Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas**

Campas Gnó Shoird,
Bóthar Bhaile Anraí, Sord,
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Éircód K67 X3Y9

**Head of Service
Disability Services DNCC**

Swords Business Campus,
Balheary Road,
Swords, Co. Dublin
K67 X3Y9

t 01 8131 820
e Headofservicedisability.dncc@hse.ie

4th July 2022

Ms Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: louise.oreilly@oireachtas.ie

PQ ref 33949/22

'To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of all autism specific services available for adults in the Fingal area; the types of services available; the waiting list for each service for initial appointment and average waiting times for subsequent appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter.' **Louise O'Reilly TD**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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

For adults with a diagnosis of Autism, the pathway to access HSE health and social care services within Fingal depends on their specific support needs. Clinical services are provided through the Primary Care Community Healthcare Networks located in Fingal, Community Mental Health Teams or Section 38 agencies governed by Disability Services depending on the needs of an individual. A diagnosis of Autism does not exclude any individual from accessing any of the services available in CHO DNCC. Therefore, waiting lists are not maintained identifying specific waiting times for adults with a diagnosis of Autism.

Specialist Disability services in CHO DNCC are provided to those with physical, sensory, intellectual disability and autism in therapeutic clinics, day, respite and residential settings. Services include personal assistant, home support, multi-disciplinary and other community supports. Services are delivered through a mix of HSE direct supports as well as through non-statutory section 38 and 39 service providers. The access criteria and service provided for each service provider varies and is agreed as part of the service level arrangement.

There is one service in Fingal, Gheel Autism Service, which provides residential and day service supports to individuals with a diagnosis of autism and therefore, is not an appointment based system.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability