



11th October 2022

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 48653/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently awaiting an assessment of needs with the children's disability network services in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

Under Progressing Disability Service children with non-complex needs will be offered services through Primary Care and children with complex needs will be offered services through the Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT). Services and supports provided are based on children's needs rather than diagnosis and regardless of where they live or where they attend school.

Under the Disability Act 2005 parents/guardians are entitled to make an application for an Assessment of Need which is a separate independent process.

With regard to your parliamentary question, assessments have been requested for 118 children with the CDNTs in County Wexford.

We are acutely aware of the high demand for services in our CHO and the impact of delays in accessing services on children and families. In the interim, the Children's Disability Network Managers are exploring different ways to offer support to children and families currently waiting to access services. This includes developing webinars, group based workshops, information sessions and the development of a repository of resources for children and their families to promote and enable wellbeing at home.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anne Ennis
Head of Service, Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare