



Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

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4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Claire Kerrane TD  
Dail Eireann  
Kildare St  
Dublin 2

**PQ/32776/23**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to provide in tabular form the number of children on waiting lists for assessment of needs in counties Roscommon and Galway”.**

Dear Deputy Kerrane

I refer to PQ/32776/23 uploaded on the PAD System on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and due for response on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth concerning “the number of children on waiting lists for assessment of needs in counties Roscommon and Galway”. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

We do not operate waiting lists for Assessment of Need (AON) as applications are processed within the timelines allowed for in the Disability Act. Some assessments are not completed within the statutory timeframe typically because of resource issues in the Children's Disability Network Teams and Primary Care Psychology Service. There may also be clinical reasons for a delay in completing assessment, for example, further assessment required.

There are currently a number of children in Galway (14) and Roscommon (3) overdue to start Stage 2 (assessment stage) requiring a Primary Care ASD diagnostic assessment which could be described as wait listed. I am pleased to advise that progress has recently been made in establishing a pathway for these children and discussions are ongoing to resolve the situation.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

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Mary Owens  
Acting General Manager  
Disability Services  
Community Healthcare West