

20th September, 2023

Mr. Denis Naughten, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 39028/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children under the age of 16 years on the disability database in CHO4; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

The National Ability Supports System (NASS) is a national database which records information about HSE disability-funded service user and need, to aid the planning, development, and organisation of disability services in Ireland.

In 2019 NASS replaced the National Intellectual Disability Database and the National Physical and Sensory Disability Database. NASS is one of four national health information systems managed by the Health Research Board.

Trained users within HSE and non-HSE organisations, who provide HSE disability-funded services, record information about their service users, and the services they receive or require onto the web-based system. The data collected plays a central role in the planning of service delivery. These findings inform national policy, health service management, and international academic research in the area of disabilities.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, from NASS system, has a record of **7,095** under 16 year olds attending a disability service in CHO 4. Disability Services to this cohort include access, where eligible and/ or applicable, to Children's Disability Network Teams, Respite (day/ night/ outreach) and Residential Services.

If you have further queries please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



**Ms. Majella Daly,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**