



**Ceannasai na Seirbhísi Curam
Michumais - Lár na Tíre**

FSS Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Lár na Tíre

Ionad Sláinte, An Mhí Bóthar Ard, An
Tulaigh Mhóir, Co. Uíbh Fhailí. R35 HP73

**General Manager of Disability Services –
Midlands**

HSE Dublin and Midlands

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11th April 2025

Mr William Aird T.D.,
Nutmeg
Abbeylax Road
Portlaoise
Co. Laois
R32 X827.

Re: PQ ref 16429/25

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children in Laois who have not received an assessment of need within the statutory timeframe since 2020, by year, in tabular form”

Dear Deputy Aird,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth for response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

The Assessment of Need (AON) Information Management system does not allow for differentiating children from Laois and Offaly so the numbers below reflect the AON reports that were not completed within the statutory timeframe for each year for the two counties.

Year	Number not completed within timeframe
2020	325
2021	381
2022	147
2023	161
2024	138

Finally, I wish to clarify that an AON is not required to access health services. The aim of an Assessment of Need is to identify whether a person has a disability, the nature and extent of the disability, any health and education needs arising from that disability, and what services are required to meet those needs.

I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries

Yours sincerely,

Elaine Mulvihill
General Manager, Midlands Disability Services