



**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 –
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17th February, 2025

Mr Micheál Carrigy TD
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re : PQ ref 2616/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children awaiting their assessment of needs in Longford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Carrigy,

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 response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

There are currently no children in Longford awaiting Assessment of Need. AON applications received are processed within a week and referred for assessment or if there is no evidence querying a disability under the Disability Act 2005 the child is referred to the relevant services required i.e. Primary Care and/or Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

I can confirm that 142 Assessment of Need (AoN) applications were received in 2024 for the Longford / Westmeath Area. Of those eight-two (82) final reports were issued and sixty (60) are in the process of being completed with final reports to issue in the coming weeks to families.

Finally, I wish to clarify that an Assessment of Need 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 but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Elaine Mulvihill
General Manager, Midlands Disability Services