



**Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar**
ag freastal ar Ghaillimh,
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community
Healthcare West**
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Oiling an Bhainisteora Ginearálta
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais
Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar,
An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim, Co. na
Gaillimhe
T: 09337951

Office of the General Manager
Disability Social Care
Community Healthcare West,
Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.
Tel: 09337951

4th June 2025

Louis O'Hara TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare St
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 29548/25

"To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the number of assessment of need liaison officers employed in CHO2 area as of 31 January 2023 and 28 May 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy O'Hara

I refer to PQ 29548/25 uploaded to the PAD System on the 29th May 2025 and due for response on the 20th June 2025 in the above regard. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

The Assessment Officer provides the Assessment Report. The Liaison Officer's role is to prepare a Service Statement. The Service Statement lists health services and supports that will be provided to the child. The Assessment Report and Service Statement are issued at the same time.

It is important to note that in this region, we do not have any dedicated AON Liaison Officers, rather we have Case Managers who assume responsibility for the AON Liaison Officer piece of work as one part of their Case Manager role. This would equate to approximately 0.8 wte (i.e. one day per week for the four Case Managers) in the three counties. There is a recent Case Manager vacancy in the Galway Office which will be advertised in the near future.

An Assessment of Need is not necessary to access health services. An Assessment of Need as outlined in the Disability Act 2005 will identify a child's health needs and what services are required to meet those needs. A person must be born after 1st June 2002 to be assessed. An application for an Assessment of Need can be made by a parent, legal guardian or personal advocate. A young person aged 16 or 17 years can apply for their own Assessment of Need.

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

Yours sincerely

Jan Flanagan
General Manager
Disability Services