



**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
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20th October 2025

Catherine Connolly TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare St
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 49944/25

"To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the number of children currently waiting for an assessment of need; the number of children in CHO2 who are currently waiting for an assessment of need; and if she will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Connolly

I refer to PQ 49944/25 in the above regard. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

The number of children/young people waiting for assessment is a constantly changing figure as new applications are received daily and clinical assessments are commenced and completed on an ongoing basis. At the 31st August 2025, there were 598 children in Galway, Mayo and Roscommon waiting for assessment. A number of these children are not technically "waiting" for assessment as the assessment is currently underway, but as the final Assessment of Need report has not yet been issued, they appear on national data reports as being overdue.

It is important to note that all referrals are dealt with in chronological order according to date received as per National Policy. The length of time it takes to complete a clinical assessment varies depending on a number of factors, for example, the type of assessment required, complexity of the child/young person's presentation, family situations etc.

It is important to note that children/young people do not require an Assessment of Need or a diagnosis in order to access a service. They can be referred by a healthcare professional or parent/carer to the CDNT for children/young people with complex needs or to Primary Care for children/young people with non-complex needs.

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

Yours sincerely

Jan Flanagan
General Manager
Disability Services