



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

Health Centre, Arden Road, Tullamore, Co
Offaly. R35 HP73

dublinmidlands.hse.ie

E: elaine.mulvihill@hse.ie

18th February, 2025

Ms. Carol Nolan TD
Independent
Harbour Street,
Tullamore
Co Offaly

Re: PQ ref 1086/25

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for a breakdown of the number of children awaiting an assessment of needs in County Offaly in 2024 and to date in 2025, by age, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Nolan,

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:

I can confirm that 565 Assessment of Need (AoN) applications were received in 2024. Of those 152 children were progressed to Stage 2 of the AON process and 107 final reports were issued. The table below outlines the current number of children awaiting AON across the two Children’s Disability Networks (10 and 11) which cover the Offaly area (please note that Network 11 covers North Laois in addition to East Offaly).

Network 10	Network 11	Total
335	190	525

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of children awaiting by age as the AON database does not allow for reports to issue by date of birth, but rather the numbers waiting at the current time and not for a given year.

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 and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries

Yours sincerely,

General Manager, Midlands Disability Services