

Dublin Mid/Leinster  
Áth Cliath Lár Laighean

Local Health Office  
HSE Area Office  
Arden Rd  
Tullamore  
Co Offaly  
Phone: 057 9359778  
Fax: 057 9359789

3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2008.

Mr. Charles Flanagan T.D.,  
Glenlahan,  
Stradbally Road,  
Portlaoise,  
Co. Laois

*Re: Parliamentary Question 12142/08*

*To ask the Minister for Health and Children the steps she proposes to take in view of the fact that there are many foster children in the Laois/Offaly area without services of an allocated social worker to deal with this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter.*

- Charles Flanagan T.D.

Dear Deputy Flanagan,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which was forwarded to me for response. I am acutely aware of the difficulties in relation to the absence of social workers in this area.

Currently 2 vacancies exist in this service in Laois/Offaly. I assure you that every effort is being made to seek approval to recruit staff to fill these vacant positions.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

---

Liam O'Callaghan,  
Local Health Manager,  
Laois/Offaly PCCC.