




Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Head of Social Care
Community Healthcare Organisation 1
Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan & Sligo
Health Service Executive
Markievicz House,
Barrack Street
Sligo

 **(071) 9155175**

10th October 2019

Deputy Pearse Doherty
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 38193/19

Special Needs Counsellor, Dungloe Community Hospital, Co. Donegal; Service users are being told referrals made with previous post holder prior to retirement are not processed; they are awaiting the new post holder to take up their position

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the difficulties service users are encountering in having referrals to vital services including respite due to a special needs counsellor post (details supplied) in County Donegal remaining unfilled; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Doherty

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 Health for response.

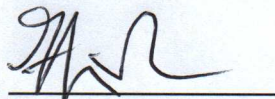
I have examined the matter, and the following outlines the up to date position.

Following a recruitment campaign for the post of Community Facilitator for Disability 0-18 years (formally known as Special Needs Counsellor), a panel of successful candidates was formed.

This Community Facilitator Post for Dungloe was prioritised as a replacement post and escalated to the National Director for approval. We are awaiting an outcome on this.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Morrison', written over a horizontal line.

Frank Morrison
Head of Social Care CHO1