

27<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

Pa Daly, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 30785/20**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if additional funding will be provided to enable the HSE to directly employ a general practitioner at a health center.**

**Detail Supplied: Listowel Health Centre The local community has raised concerns about their inability to secure adequate primary care due to limited resources.”**

Dear Deputy Daly,

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.

The Health Act 1970 makes provision for the delivery of medical services to General Medical Scheme (GMS), public patients through an agreement with Registered Medical Practitioner.

There are currently six GPs in Listowel and five others near the Listowel area with such an agreement in place. Furthermore under the Open Entry scheme a GP can set up their own practice and provide services to GMS patients who may wish to avail of these services.

Consistent with government policy the HSE does not have arrangements in place to directly employ GPs.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Teresa O' Donovan**  
**Head of Service - Primary Care,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**