



Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar  
ag freastal ar Ghailímh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim  
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1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

Mr. Seán Canney TD,  
St. David's,  
The Mall,  
Tuam,  
County Galway.

PQ 27533/20

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to deal with the fact that 75% of the available speech and language therapists in HSE Community Healthcare West are redeployed to either testing or contact tracing including speech and language therapists from both primary care and social care and the detrimental effect it is having in the delivery of services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Canney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Public Representation I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE has commenced a recruitment drive nationally to secure swabbing staff, which in turn will allow therapy and other clinical staff to return to their posts.

Some of these people have already been hired and are in situ.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Frank Murphy  
Head of Primary Care  
Community Healthcare West