



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach  
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire,  
An Lú, An Mhí

Oifig na bPríomhoifigeach, An Chéad Urlár,  
Coimhleasc Naomh Bríd, Bóthar Cheanannais  
Bhaile Átha Fhirdia, Co Lú, A92 DRN0

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10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re PQ – 61972/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of ophthalmologists contracted by the HSE to deliver primary care services for children in County Louth in 2019, 2020 and to date in 2021, by location; if no ophthalmologists will be available in Drogheda primary care in the coming weeks given that the existing ophthalmologist is leaving the post and no replacement has been secured; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Fergus O'Dowd**

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

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 outlined the position as follows.

Grade	Location	2019	2020	2021
Ophthalmologist	Louth	1	1	1

The Ophthalmology Post in Louth Primary Care will become vacant at the end of January 2022. Recruitment to fill the Ophthalmology Post in Louth Primary Care began in December 2021 and hopefully a replacement will be in Post very soon

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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Des O'Flynn  
Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation