



National Director, Community Operations
Dr. Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8, DO8 W2A8
Tel: 01 6352596 Email: communityoperations@hse.ie

Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta, Oibríochtaí Pobail
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Atha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8
T 01 6352596 R: communityoperations@hse.ie

1st April 2021

Deputy Thomas Gould,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 14109/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of out-of-hours doctors facilities closed in Dublin, Limerick or Galway from March 2020 to date; and the date for reopening of same.

-Thomas Gould

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Having examined the matter, we have determined that no out-of-hours doctor facilities were closed in Dublin, Limerick or Galway in the timeframe specified. The level of service provision for patients remains the same as was provided pre Covid-19, though the model of service delivery i.e. the Doctor may not always be present in the treatment centre but will be available to patients as required. This means that following telephone triage, the Doctor will come and see patients in the relevant centre, carry out a home visit or arrange a virtual consultation as deemed clinically appropriate. In addition, where there are increased demands in certain areas, support teams can be deployed from other locations to provide a dynamic and responsive service to members' patients.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Pp,

Yvonne O'Neill,
Interim National Director,
Community Operations

