



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

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

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10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh T.D.  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 22840/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE opticians currently providing services in County Mayo; the areas within the county they cover; the number of vacant positions there are currently; the timeline for filling these vacancies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Conway-Walsh,

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

There are no opticians currently employed by the HSE in county Mayo. There is one HSE medical Ophthalmologist in post in county Mayo. There is one vacant HSE medical Ophthalmologist post and one vacant HSE orthoptist post.

Recruitment for vacant posts is via the National Recruitment Service and as such we (CHW) are unable to give you a definitive timeline for the completion of this recruitment campaign.

Please be assured that we are working to fill these vacancies as soon as possible. In the interim the management team is planning to have sessional Ophthalmology clinics one day per week in Ballina for urgent cases.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mary Warde,  
Head of Primary Care Services,  
Community Healthcare West