



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

Office of the Chief Officer
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

Chief Officer Offices, First Floor
St Brigids Complex, Kells Road,
Ardee, Co. Louth, A92 DRN0

www.hse.ie
@hselive
@MLMCommHealth

t 041 6859278
e CHO8@hse.ie

16th December 2022

Deputy Fergus O' Dowd
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re PQ 59993/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if progress has been made with respect to recruitment of Occupational Therapists in County Louth; if neighbouring areas with suitable levels of occupational therapists could transfer or redirect services; if persons will be offered appointments in neighbouring areas, in order to deal with the absolutely unacceptable void in services in the Louth area; 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.

At present all Paediatric Occupational Therapist posts in Louth Primary Care services are vacant, leading to no Paediatric Occupational Therapy services in Primary Care in County Louth.

Efforts continue to fill Occupational Therapy vacancies in Louth Primary Care. Currently, a CHO8 Occupational Therapy recruitment campaign is completed and a panel is now in place.

It is hoped all existing staff vacancies will be filled from this panel, and Paediatric Occupational Therapy services in Louth Primary Care will recommence in Q1/Q2 in 2023.

The Network Manager is working closely with the management team to support progression of the recruitment process.

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,

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