



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> February 2022

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Ref: PQ 4879/22 – To ask the Minister for Health if posts have been filled for both the ophthalmologist and optician contracted by the HSE to deliver primary care services for children in County Louth; 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.

Louth Primary Care Ophthalmology Service is currently recruiting staff into the service. The available cohort of appropriately qualified professional staff in the field of Ophthalmology are few in number. We are acutely aware of the need to provide this service to the people of Louth and every effort is being made to fill all vacancies as soon as possible.

Please be advised that at present the Louth Community Ophthalmic Physician is reviewing all referrals and clients should contact either of the main Primary Care Centre in Louth if there is an urgent and immediate need. Contact details as follows:

- Community Services Centre, Dublin Rd., Dundalk 042 9332287
- Boyne Primary Care Centre, Patrick St., Drogheda 041 9809500

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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Anne Kennedy  
Acting Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation