



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

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse – Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

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10th February 2022

Ruairí Ó Murchú

Leinster House

Dáil Eireann

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 2312/21 – Home Support Pilot for CHO2

Dear Deputy Ó Murchú,

I refer to your correspondence, in relation to the operational status of the Home Support Pilot commenced in CHO2; the levels of staff retention from commencement and the difficulties the pilot scheme has experienced to date. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

The HSE are in the process of carrying out a Home Support Pilot in four Community Health Networks across the country. In Community Healthcare West (CHO2), the Tuam network has been chosen for the pilot which comprises of the following Primary Care Team areas: Tuam, Abbeyknockmoy, Athenry and Loughrea.

The purpose of the pilot is to use a care needs assessment tool called InterRAI which the HSE has been implementing across its services over time. It is already being used in some community settings and acute hospitals across Community Healthcare West. The benefit of InterRAI is that it provides the HSE with a lot of information about the person's care needs so that we can work with people to determine what services and supports will best meet their care needs. It gives us far more information than other assessments that we have been using. Not only will that make us better able to plan services for individuals it allows us to look at population needs so we can plan, develop and deliver reformed or new services over time.

The Pilot commenced in CHO2 on Tuesday 25th January 2022. As CHO2 have only recently commenced the pilot we do not have data available to determine the queries raised in your PQ.

As I'm sure you are aware, Home Support Services across all Community Healthcare Organisation's are finding it extremely challenging to source Health Care Support Assistant's (HCSA's). The HSE realises this is very difficult for clients who require care and would like to ensure you that every effort is being made to recruit staff. Community Healthcare West has secured funding for additional HCSA's and a recruitment campaign closed on November 30th 2021. Interviews for CHO2 are taking place this week. In addition, the HSE are working closely with the funded agencies to recruit staff.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon Glynn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Shannon Glynn
Head of Service
Older People's Services
Community Healthcare West