



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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Deputy Shorthall,
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 41716/22

To ask the Minister for Health the reason that public health nurse checks on babies in West Dublin has been discontinued; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shorthall,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm that there are staff shortages in the Public Health Nursing (PHN) Service across CHO7 Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow (DSKWW). This includes a shortage of Public Health Nurses and Community Registered Nurses. This is impacting the delivery of routine, non-priority developmental screening assessments.

The Public Health Nursing Service have implemented a system, which enables them to prioritise the required screening services and address those needs, while the staffing issue is being addressed. Site-specific contingency plans continue to be implemented across the area to address the priority requirements in vacant PHN caseloads. Recruitment is ongoing to fill these vacancies.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but if you have any queries or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly,
Interim Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare