

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

Head of Service, Primary Care

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Deputy Eoin Ó Broin Dáil Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ ref 29375/22

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a significant gap in public health nurse services in an area (details supplied); the action that is being taken to ensure that services are provided right across the locality; and if he will provide guidance in relation to obtaining appointments in locations in which the service is not in place. -Eoin Ó Broin

Dear Deputy Ó Broin,

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 confirms that there are significant staff shortages in the Public Health Nursing Service in the Dublin West Area. The HSE has been unsuccessful in filling these vacancies in recent recruitment campaigns. In response to this, the service has moved to a prioritisation framework and have been advising parents to contact their GP if they have any concerns. The National Public Health Nursing Student Campaign is currently underway and it is hoped that some of the vacancies can be filled from the Student intake this year.

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,

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