



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach  
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire,  
An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin,  
An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

Office of the Chief Officer  
Community Health Organisation  
Midlands Louth Meath

HSE,  
Area Office, Arden Road,  
Tullamore, Co Offaly

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
@hselive  
@MLMCommHealth

t 057 9359787  
e CHO8@hse.ie

22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022

Mr Johnny Guirke T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: Parliamentary Question - 12684/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health when in-person psychiatric outpatient appointments will resume with HSE psychiatrists in counties Meath, Westmeath and Louth in view of the fact that only ineffective by phone HSE psychiatric consultations are continuing despite the lifting of restrictions**

Dear Deputy Guirke,

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 I outline the position as follows.

In relation to Louth Meath Mental Health Services, Face to Face appointments continued with a combined mix of telehealth/video assessment during Covid 19. Appointments were made based on clinical need and taking into consideration client preference. If a client requested a face to face appointment this was/is facilitated. All new patient appointments have been held face to face by all teams since last year.

Within all Community Mental Health clinics in Westmeath, all new and re-referral appointments are taking place in person (face-to-face), unless a service user has a stated preference for virtual appointments.

I trust the above is in order, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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