



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair
Ascaill Bhaile Choimín,
Páirc Gnó an Ráithín, Ráithín
Luimneach
Teil: 061 483722

Office of the Head of Service for Primary Care
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare
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1st June 2022

Deputy Jackie Cahill
8-9 Parnell St.,
Thurles,
Co. Tipperary.

Re: PQ 26383/22 “To ask the Minister for Health when the Occupational Therapist position in Templemore CHO3 will be filled given that it has remained vacant since February 2022 (and it provides such an essential service within the community and it needs to be filled urgently); and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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:

I can advise that the vacant Occupational Therapist position in Templemore was approved for filling immediately in February 2022. Unfortunately, the Occupational Therapy Manager has advised that it has not been possible to fill this vacancy due to unsuccessful recruitment through the national Staff Grade panel and expiry of the national Senior Grade panel.

Mr. Dayalan has advised that further recruitment campaigns are planned both regionally (Senior Occupational Therapist) and nationally (Staff Grade Occupational Therapist). It is anticipated that the formation of both of these new panels will help in resolving recruitment issues similar to and including the one in Templemore.

Mr. Dayalan has also confirmed that any priority referrals received for the Templemore area are being covered by existing staff on a needs basis and this arrangement will continue until such time as the vacancy in Templemore is filled.

I trust this information addresses the issues raised in your parliamentary question.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel McLaughlin
General Manager
Primary Care