



Bainisteoir Ginearálta Cúram Príomhúil,  
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Mr Thomas Pringle TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

**PQ 57239** – *“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on staffing shortages at the Ballymun primary health care centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter”*  
– **Thomas Pringle TD**

Dear Deputy Pringle,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

There are ongoing and continuous recruitment efforts to fill vacant posts in Ballymun Primary Health Centre and across Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC).

**Current Vacancies in Ballymun Primary Health Centre:**

<b>Administration</b>	2 WTE (whole time Equivalents) – Post at recruitment stage and start date agreed.
<b>Physiotherapy</b>	2 WTE and 1 WTE Physiotherapy Assistant
<b>Occupational Therapy</b>	2 WTE staff grade- Both posts offered out to panel.
<b>Social Work</b>	No Vacant posts
<b>Dietitian</b>	2 WTE staff grades are both filled 3 WTE Senior Staff grades unfilled
<b>Speech &amp; Language</b>	<b>Adult</b> 1 Senior WTE <b>Pediatric</b> 1 Senior WTE 1 Staff Grade WTE
<b>Nursing</b>	3.8 WTE.

Summary of vacant posts in Ballymun Primary Health Centre:

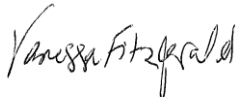
- New national staff grade Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapist, and Speech & Language Therapist panels formed in November 2022.
- Senior Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapist and Speech & Language Therapist panels are in place and have been recently supplemented with additional recruitment campaigns to attract new candidates. All vacant posts have been offered out to existing panels, and will be offered to new panels once formed.
- Dietitian: Staff Grade & Senior panels are in place with all posts having been offered to these panels.

CHO DNCC have introduced continuous rolling recruitment campaigns for difficult to fill specialities including Physiotherapy, Nursing, and Dietitians while also working with recruitment agencies to source candidates from the local & international market.

The recruitment team have introduced new initiatives to market and attract new candidates including moving recruitment campaigns to a new user friendly applicant software, local Refer a Friend Scheme, presence at Health Care Jobs Fairs, and advertising jobs in specialty publications such as union newsletters, local newspapers and professional body websites. Vacancies are also advertised on CHO DNCC social media platforms.

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

Yours sincerely,



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**Vanessa Fitzgerald**

General Manager  
Dublin North Central  
Primary Care