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2nd December 2022

Deputy Thomas Pringle Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ ref 58159/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the general practitioner who runs the practice in Dunkineely Health Centre, Dunkineely, County Donegal, has informed patients that the practice will close with immediate effect (details supplied); the steps that he will take to ensure that there is a replacement doctor as soon as possible; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Pringle

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.

Having examined the matter, I can confirm that due to a vacant GP position there has been no GP service in Dunkineely since 21st November 2022. HSE Donegal Primary Care has advertised the vacant position and is working hard to recruit a permanent replacement doctor for the area.

In the meantime, the HSE has put an interim arrangement in place. As of 21st November, the doctor has been providing a GP service for GMS patients from the Health Centre in Glenties and will continue this service until a full-time GP service is returned to Dunkineely. The HSE wishes to emphasise that this is only an interim arrangement and it is making every effort to secure a full-time GP service at Dunkineely Health Centre in the near future.

The HSE has written to GMS patients in the area to inform them of the above position and it will contact these patients again to advise them when a new full-time GP service has been restored at Dunkineely Health Centre.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

Mandy Doyle

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil

Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall Liatroim Muineachán Sligeach

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