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12th October

Deputy Pearse Doherty Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 50088/22 – "To ask the Minister for Health when Arranmore island will be assigned a full-time public health nurse to replace the island's full-time public health nurse who retired in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Doherty,

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 the following outlines the position.

There is a full-time Community Registered Nurse allocated to Arranmore Island which has a population of 450 people. This nurse is suitably qualified and competent to meet the demand for the nursing needs of the population. The nurse works alongside the Palliative Care Team and the enhanced Community Care Team as required to bring the best possible care to the population of Arranmore Island.

There is also a Public Health Nurse based on the mainland who holds responsibility for the child development and screening for children under five years of age. The Public Health Nurse travels to the island when required to do so. Currently there are eight children under five years of age (two of them are there temporarily from Ukraine) and all child developmental checks are up to date.

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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Mandy Doyle Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall Liatroim Muineachán Sligeach

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