



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare
Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 KDC2
Email: cho7.pqreps@hse.ie Tel: (045) 882 597

18/04/2023

Deputy Mark Ward
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 16443/23 *“To ask the Minister for Health when a public health nurse will be available for residents in Newcastle, County Dublin; the current and levels of public health nurses by area in Dublin mid-west; the plans for recruitment of public health nurses in Dublin mid-west; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Deputy Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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 a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm the Public Health Nursing Service Dublin Mid-West is experiencing a significant shortage of Public Health Nurses (PHN) and Community Registered Nurses. Recruitment to vacant nursing posts continues to challenge the Nursing Services despite ongoing recruitment campaigns and attendances at recruitment fairs both Nationally and Internationally. Currently there is a rolling campaign underway to fill vacant positions, however to date none of the vacancies have been filled. The total current number of Nurses working within the Public Health Nursing Service in the Dublin Mid-West area is 44.8 working time equivalents.

The Health Service Executive will continue to run recruitment campaigns and both the Primary Care Service and the Public Health Nursing Service will continue to strive to provide the required nursing services to the population.

Parents are encouraged to contact the PHN Service if they have any concerns or queries regarding their child's development.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly

**Interim Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare**