



**Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar**
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

**Community
Healthcare West**
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Head of Primary Care Services
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Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim
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Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58.
T: 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

24th January 2023

Seán Canney
St. David's
The Mall
Tuam
County Galway

PQ 1595/23

To ask the Minister for Health the progress that has been made on recruiting a permanent consultant ophthalmologist post for County Galway who will provide a service at the Tuam primary care centre; the progress that has been made on the recruitment of clinical optometry staff for Galway; when the integrated primary care eye team for County Galway will be fully in place to address the current acute capacity issues in community ophthalmology in County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Canney,

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

Primary Care have been successful in recruiting a Consultant Ophthalmologist for Co Galway. This service will be provided in Tuam Primary Care Centre and is due to commence in March 2023.

A Clinical Optometrist commenced in November 2022 and is currently providing a service in Tuam Primary Care Centre.

Following the appointment of the new Ophthalmology Consultant, work will then commence on setting up an Integrated Eye Care Team involving Community Healthcare West and Galway University Hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Mary Warde

Head of Primary Care

Community Healthcare West