

Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair Ascaill Bhaile Choimín, Páirc Gnó an Ráithín, Ráithín Luimneach Teil: 061 483226

Office of the Head of Service for Primary Care HSE Mid West Community Healthcare Ballycummin Ave, Raheen Business Park, Raheen, Limerick Tel: 061 483226

20th January 2023

Deputy Michael Lowry Constituency Office Abbey Road, Thurles Co. Tipperary

Re: PO 2157/23 "To ask the Minister for Health the reason that the Civil Registration Office for the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Thurles, Co. Tipperary is now closed; the reason the HSE is not providing this service to the people of Thurles; the solutions that have been put in place to have the Civil Registration office re-open in Thurles; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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

The Supt. Registrar has confirmed that the Civil Registration Service (CRS) office in Thurles has been closed since July 2022 as the Registrar who provided the service there vacated the role. She advised that the Human Resources (HR) Dept. issued an 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) to staff regarding the vacant post, but it was unsuccessful in filling the post at that time.

Since then, the HSE has completed a substantial recruitment campaign at the appropriate grade and a panel is now in place. The vacant post in the CRS in Thurles will be offered out again as an EOI to those on the new panel with a view to filling this post at the earliest opportunity. As soon as the successful candidate is recruited, intensive training will commence, which is required for this legislative position.

Meanwhile, Civil Registration Services for the population of Thurles are being provided in the HSE Mid West (CHO3) area from both the Nenagh and Roscrea CRS Offices. Certificates for life events can be requested by telephone and issued by post to applicants without the requirement to attend any Civil Registration Office. Service users from Thurles who need to attend a Civil Registration Office are being offered timely appointments throughout the CHO3 area in respect of the registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages and also couples who intend to serve notice of intention to marry. If service users need to attend a CRS office, they should make contact with the office by telephone. The contact details for all of the offices are on the HSE website – www.hse.ie

I can advise that it is the intention of the HSE to restore the Civil Registration Services at the Primary Care Centre in Thurles as soon as it is in a position to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Mary O'Malley

General Manager, Primary Care