



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

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

**Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim**

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04<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Claire Kerrane  
Sinn Féin TD for Galway/Roscommon  
Bridge Street  
Ballinasloe  
Co Galway

**RE: PQ 31223/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health what services are available under the dental treatment services scheme in Ballinasloe; the action that is being taken to ensure that medical card holders can access dental services in Ballinasloe; and if he will make a statement on the matter"**

Dear Deputy Kerrane

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.

The DTSS (Dental Treatment Services Scheme) allows medical card holders to access to the dental treatments provided under the DTSS Scheme. The list of contracted Dentists Operating under the DTSS Scheme is provided to medical card patients on request. A person living in Galway can contact a Dentist on the DTSS Scheme in Galway or in another county.

Currently there are a number of factors impacting access and they are as follows:

- An increase in demand in all counties
- Difficulties recruiting Dentists and Dental Nurses
- An ongoing dispute over fees.

The HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Scheme (PCRS) is currently validating the list of Dentists Operating under the DTSS Scheme.

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

Yours sincerely

*M Warde*

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**Mary Warde**  
**Head of Primary Care Services**  
**Galway, Mayo & Roscommon**