

Oifig an Príomhoifigeach Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire, An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí. Office of the Chief Officer Community Health Organisation Midlands Louth Meath

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Mr. Robert Troy T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question -12743/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify when the proposed Primary Care Centre for Ballymahon, County Longford will be operational and fully staffed; if he agrees that primary care service users who had been attendees at Clonbrusk Primary Care Centre, Athlone should be reinstated at this facility until such time as the Ballymahon service is operational.

Dear Deputy Troy

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above question, which you recently submitted. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows.

The Slaintecare Community Healthcare Network (CHN) model is currently being implemented across CHO8 including Longford and Westmeath. Three Community Healthcare Networks were established across Longford and Westmeath to ensure equity in population distributions, and are as follows: Longford/Central Westmeath, East Westmeath and West Westmeath/North Offaly. The implementation of these networks necessitates residents in some areas of central Westmeath attending primary care appointments in the Longford/Central Westmeath network. Some of these primary care services will take place in Ballyminnion Primary Care Centre, with others taking place in Ballymahon Health Centre.

The expansion of community and primary care is at the heart of the Sláintecare vision. The provision of modern, well equipped and accessible infrastructure is essential if we are change our model of care which is why we have prioritised investment in Ballymahon PCC.

Ideally, all members of a PCT will be based in a primary care team building, where accommodation is appropriate and available to enhance multi-disciplinary work.

The PCC Ballymahon building project is currently awaiting HSE Board approval, following this approval it will go forward to planning process and subject to approvals being granted we expect a build time of c.18 months with equipping thereafter.

While we await the development of the PCC in Ballymahon, clinic-based primary care services are being offered from Ballymahon Medical Centre and Ballymahon Health Centre. In addition to the clinic-based appointment primary care services are provided via domiciliary home-visits where indicated.



I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Des O'Flynn Chief Officer Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation