



Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair &
Tuaisceart Chontae
Baile Átha Cliath

Community Healthcare
Organisation
Dublin North City &
County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Cúram Príomhúil,
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae
Bhaile Átha Cliath,
Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna,
Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

☎: 01 8467341 📧: hopc.dncc@hse.ie

Head of Service Primary Care,
HSE Community Healthcare Organisation
Dublin North City & County,
Ballymun Healthcare Facility,
Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

Mr Alan Farrell TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

17th April 2023

PQ 15216/23 – *“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of the current HSE infrastructure relating to maternity healthcare services, in north Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter”* – **Alan Farrell TD**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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

Maternity services provided by Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) are in line with the National Healthy Childhood Programme (NHCP) and include postnatal care to all new mothers.

CHO DNCC provides antenatal classes to expectant mothers. Services provided include information seminars, education services and exercises to parents at different times throughout the year in HSE centres or in partnership with our voluntary funded organisations.

Our public health nursing service support the family and child for three months following birth. The "First Visit" by the PHN is mandated and takes place within 72 hours of discharge from the maternity services. The visit incorporates full clinical assessment of the mother and the infant. Health promotion, infant feeding support, and advice are provided and the visits allow for relationship building between the mother and the PHN. Should the child experience health issues, the PHN service remains in contact with families to provide whatever support is possible from a primary care perspective.

In addition, there are 17 Infant Feeding support groups within CHO DNCC including two permanent lactation consultants who provide support and education to breastfeeding mothers and the Public Health Nursing team.

CHO DNCC are also running a pilot programme on Post Natal Depression in Finglas. This is a collaboration between CHO DNCC, the Rotunda Hospital, Tusla and Barnardos.

The CHO DNCC Homebirth Service was transferred to the RCSI Hospital Group from January 2023, but the service continues to operate providing homebirth services with community midwives.

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

Yours sincerely,

Tom O'Brien
Head of Service Primary Care