



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

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serving Galway, Mayo
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29th March 2023

Mairead Farrell TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref PQ ref 15284/23

To ask the Minister for Health if supports will be provided to the Operators of the Tuam Meals on Wheels Service, County Galway to prevent its closure at the end of the March 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Farrell

I refer to PQ ref 15284/23 uploaded on the PAD System on the 23rd March 2023 and due for response on the 11th April 2023 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health regarding Tuam Meals on Wheels closure and if he will make a statement on the matter". The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

Tuam Social Services are provided funding for a Meals on Wheels service through the Grant Aid Agreement and funding. All of the funding requested from the HSE for 2023 was provided and they were also given additional top up funding through an inflationary fund to assist with providing a service. We were made aware recently that they were in difficulty with regard to providing a service and we reached out immediately to assist.

There are other providers of Meals and Wheels in the Tuam area who are willing to assist and we have linked them with Tuam Social Services. I have been informed that the service users receiving a meal from Tuam Social Services until March 31st will receive contact details for the other Meals on Wheels provider(s) so that they can continue to receive a service.

I trust this response addresses the matter you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

Iolo Eilian
Head of Service
Older People's Services
Community Healthcare West