



Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
HSE Offices, Lacken
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10th May 2023

Ms. Kathleen Funchion TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 20673/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a list of public health nurses operating in the relevant areas in counties Carlow and Kilkenny; the locations in which vacancies exist at present; and when these vacancies will be filled, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Funchion,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

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

PHN Area	Current Vacancies	Progress to fill vacancy
37 geographical areas in Carlow Kilkenny. Currently there is one Public Health Nurse (PHN) in each area. However a number of PHNs avail of one day parental or statutory leave per week, this equates to 5 whole time equivalent (WTE) vacant PHN days. Registered General Nursing (RGN) support will be allocated to areas affected to support older persons and clinical care, however child health will be impacted if PHN post is vacant.	8	All vacant posts approved for backfill but currently waiting list for PHNs to transfer in.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anna Marie Lanigan".

Anna Marie Lanigan
Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant National Director
South East Community Healthcare