



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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02/06/2023

Deputy Brid Smith,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 24253/23**

“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the promised return of nursing staff to Curlew Road health centre; if he will clarify whether staffing levels have increased; when the health centre will have a full complement of staff back to deliver much-needed health services to the population of Drimnagh; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Deputy Brid Smith

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Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm no staff have been transferred to Armagh road from Curlew Road. This measure has not currently been implemented and is being reviewed by the Director of Nursing in further consultation with her staff and stakeholders.

The Public Health Nursing Service is experiencing a significant shortage of Public Health Nurses (PHN) and Community Registered Nurses. Recruitment to vacant nursing posts continues to challenge the Nursing Services despite ongoing recruitment campaigns and attendances at recruitment fairs both Nationally and Internationally. Currently there is a rolling Campaign underway to fill vacant positions, however to date none of the vacancies have been filled. One Public Health Nurse has been recruited since the beginning of 2023.

The Health Service Executive will continue to run recruitment campaigns and both the Primary Care Service and the Public Health Nursing Service will continue to strive to provide the required nursing services to the population.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Gillian Farrelly**

**Interim Head of Service, Primary Care  
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare**