

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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5th October, 2023

Mr. Charlie Flanagan T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question - 41100/23

To ask the Minister for Health when HSE-contracted home care visit staff in Laois and Offaly will resume evening and weekend hours to ensure that a full complement of service is available to patients and their families; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Charlie Flanagan

Dear Deputy Flanagan

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

The Home Support service is delivered by the HSE directly and indirectly through Home Support private providers contracted to carry out the service on behalf of the HSE. The Home Support service is a seven day, Monday to Sunday 8am to 8pm service.

Please note carer availability remains an issue within the Home Support Service. However, a recruitment campaign is ongoing within CHO8 to recruit additional Health Care Support Assistants to address gaps in service provision.

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,

Donal Fitzsimons Acting Chief Officer Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation