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18th April, 2024.

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 16148/24

"To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that an investment fund is intending to convert a currently-operating GPs surgery in Blackpool, Cork, and close the existing service; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

The HSE enters into GMS contracts with GPs in order that a GP service can be delivered to GMS Cardholders, however, it is important to note that GPs are independent contractors. They are independently autonomous in respect of items such as their accommodation.

GPs are obliged to notify the HSE and GMS cardholders of any change of location of their centre of practice. Any change of centre of practice must be within the geographical distances outlined in the GMS contract.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Priscilla Lynch
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

