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14th March 2024

Deputy Pádraig MacLochlainn Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

## PQ ref 9203/24

"To ask the Minister for Health when the HSE will reinstate the five day a week doctor/ GP service at the Churchill Health Centre, County Donegal."

Dear Deputy MacLochlainn

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 the following outlines the position for Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo.

I can advise that the GP practice concerned never provided a five-day-a-week doctor's surgery service in Churchill. Prior to Covid, the practice operated a long standing one-hour slot, twice a week between 12 and 1 o clock on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The GP practice has outlined that the face of modern general practice has changed significantly in recent years and the introduction of the Chronic Disease Programme by the HSE has seen a significant shift in how they, as GPs, are expected to manage long-term illness in general practice.

The HSE will attempt to continue to negotiate with the practice to see how a service can be reinstated to Churchill in the near future

In the meantime, the Churchill Health Centre remains open, with Public Health Nurse services currently running lactation clinics, wound clinics and child developmental at the centre.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

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**Mandy Doyle** 

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil

Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall Liatroim Muineachán Sligeach

**Head of Service, Primary Care** 

Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo