



Office of the Head of Primary Care  
Services  
Community Health Organisation  
Midlands Louth Meath

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28<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

Deputy Robert Troy  
Leinster House  
Kildare St.  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ reference 5918/25 – Representation from Robert Troy enquiring as to when the diabetic nurses and podiatrist will be replaced in the Primary Care unit in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.**

Dear Deputy Troy,

Thank you for your query. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation, which you recently submitted. In preparing this response your representation has been discussed with the relevant Managers. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The HSE Circular NCO-04-2020 was issued to all General Practitioners on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020, detailing the arrangements around the introduction of the Chronic Disease Management Programme (CDM), which was due to commence in January 2020. In line with the circular, all new and existing GMS patients were to be transitioned to the CDM Programme, which also included patients that were registered with the Heartwatch Programme and the Diabetic Structured Care Programme.

In December 2024, registered GP's were advised by the HSE that the Heartwatch Programme would cease from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. In line with this decision, the GP Lead for the Diabetic Structured Care Programme wrote to the participating GPs in the Diabetic Structured Care Programme, advising them that the programme would cease in line with the Heartwatch Programme from 01<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

The diabetic nurses have been transitioned under CDM.

There is a Chronic Disease team in operation in Longford and Westmeath. Referrals are accepted from all GP's in the region for persons with Diabetes, along with other Heart and Respiratory illnesses.

This service is delivered in different locations, including the Primary Care Centre in Mullingar.

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,

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Joseph Ruane  
Head of Primary Care Services  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation