

Bainisteoir Ginearálta Cúram Priomhuil FSS Limistéar Sláinte Comhtháite Contae Bhaile Átha Cliath Thuaidh Aonad 100, Urlár 1, Céide Bhruach an Locha, Páirc Miondíolaíochta Thaobh an Aerfoirt Sord, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, K67 R8X2

General Manager Primary Care HSE Integrated Health Area Dublin North County

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## 23rd July 2025

Ms Grace Boland, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Email: grace.boland@oireachtas.ie

PQ 38811/25 - "To ask the Minister for Health her plans to expand the opening hours of the D-Doc services for Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush and Lusk, given the increase in population seen in recent times; and if she will make a statement on the matter" - Grace Boland TD

Dear Deputy Boland,

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

The DDOC GP Out of Hours Service, established in 2006, provides urgent medical care to the population of Integrated Health Area Dublin North County (IHA DNC) and Integrated Health Area Dublin North City & West (IHA DNCW), including communities of Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush, and Lusk. The service operates on weekdays from 1800hrs to 0800hrs and offers 24-hour coverage during weekends and public holidays.

The service operates from five dedicated treatment centres, covering both Integrated Health Areas (IHAs). For patients in crisis need and unable to attend in person, two mobile units operate throughout all service hours with an additional vehicle activated during weekends and peak demand periods to ensure comprehensive coverage. The five treatment centres are located in the following HSE facilities:

- Swords Health Centre, Bridge Street, Swords, Co Dublin, K67 X765
- Coolock Primary Care Centre, Cromcastle Road, Coolock, D05 V026
- Hartstown Health Centre, Cherryfield Lawn, Clonsilla, D15 CR62
- Ballymun Primary Care Centre, Ballymun, D09 C8P5
- North Strand Health Centre, North Strand, Dublin 1, D01 CC81

During peak periods, such as Christmas, Bank Holidays, and throughout the winter months, additional GPs are scheduled in centres that have the capacity to accommodate increased demand. At the present time, there are no plans to expand the DDOC GP Out of Hours Service.

I trust this information clarifies your query.

Yours sincerely,

Gonne Barry
A/General Manager Primary Care
Dublin North County