



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

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13th May 2025

Deputy Ged Nash,
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 12119/25 - To ask the Minister for Health if there is a community engagement programme or outreach programme for people living with diabetes in the Dundalk area; if so, the form that engagement takes; the number of people it reaches; and if she will make a statement on the matter – Ged Nash

Dear Deputy Nash,

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 outlined the position as follows.

DISCOVER Diabetes is a structured patient group education programme for adults with type 2 diabetes, facilitated by the Community Dietitians of the Louth Chronic Disease Hub. Referrals to this programme can be made by healthcare professionals, by a Dietitian following a one-to-one consultation or by the person themselves through the HSE website.

In 2024, a total of 77 individuals attended a DISCOVER Diabetes programme, with 49 participants in Dundalk and 28 in Castlebellingham. Presently, there are 57 individuals from the Dundalk and Castlebellingham areas on the waiting list.

In the first 3 months of 2025, written correspondence has been sent to 51 people on the waiting list offering them a place in a DISCOVER Diabetes group programme. People on the waiting list are offered two available course dates to choose from.

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,

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