



02nd April 2025

☎: 01 895 3768 ✉: gm.dn@hse.ie

Mr Robert O'Donoghue, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: robert.odonoghue@oireachtas.ie

PQ 13110/25 – *“To ask the Minister for Health in regard to the primary health care centre in a location (details supplied), to outline future plans for the installation of x-ray and scanning facilities to treat minor injuries in the north county area and relieve stress on in hospital accident and emergency in the wider region, similar to the Bantry local injury unit; and if she will make a statement on the matter”* – **Robert O'Donoghue TD**

Details Supplied: Balbriggan

Dear Deputy O'Donoghue,

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Integrated Health Area Dublin North County delivers a variety of integrated care services from Balbriggan Primary Care Centre to meet the health needs of the local population.

Balbriggan Primary Care Centre operates at full capacity, accommodating a range of essential community-based health services. Currently there is no available space within the building to facilitate the addition of x-ray, scanning, or minor injury treatment services. Furthermore, there are no development plans in place to extend or repurpose existing areas for this purpose.

The HSE have developed a scheme for GP Access to Community Diagnostics which is integral to the Enhanced Community Care programme and in line with the Chronic Disease Management Programme and GP Agreement 2019. The scheme aims to support early diagnosis of disease, improve patient experience, and reduce hospital referrals. Information on the scheme can be found at:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/primarycare/community-healthcare-networks/gp-diagnostics/>

While the need to alleviate pressure on hospital emergency departments is acknowledged, primary care services in Dublin North County continues to focus on delivering community-based healthcare within the existing infrastructure. Any future considerations regarding expanded diagnostic or urgent care services would require a comprehensive feasibility study, additional infrastructure, and considerable funding.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Fiacra McGuirk
General Manager Primary Care
Dublin North County