



Oifig na Bainisteoir Limistéar Sláinte
Comhtháite Chiarraí

FSS Iardheiscirt, Ráth Teas, Tra Lí,
Contae Chiarraí, V92 YA25

Office of the Integrated Healthcare
Manager Kerry

HSE South West, Rathass, Tralee,
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10th October 2025

Deputy Michael Cahill, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 52238/25

"To ask the Minister for Health the plans in place to expand the provision of health services in the Iveragh peninsula; and if she will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) South West acknowledges the concerns regarding the provision and expansion of health services in the Iveragh Peninsula, County Kerry.

Delivering comprehensive health services in rural and remote areas such as the Iveragh Peninsula continues to present significant challenges, particularly in relation to recruitment and retention of healthcare staff. These difficulties arise due to a combination of factors, including geographic location, increasing demand for services, and national shortages in key healthcare professions such as nursing and allied health.

Significant efforts are underway to address staffing shortages across a range of essential services, including Older Persons Services, Primary Care, Mental Health, Day Care, and Home Care. Specifically, the HSE South West is committed to maintaining and supporting the ongoing provision of beds and services at St. Anne's Community Hospital, Cahersiveen, to ensure local access to inpatient care.

While challenges remain, HSE South West strongly refutes any suggestion that the Iveragh Peninsula is being deprived of or discriminated against in terms of health service provision.

The HSE remains focused on improving and expanding health services in the region and will continue to explore all opportunities to enhance care and service delivery for the residents of the Iveragh Peninsula.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Julie O'Neill
Integrated Healthcare Area Manager Kerry
HSE South West