



05/11/2025

Deputy Eoin Ó Broin
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 53972/25 To ask the Minister for Health to confirm whether primary care psychology services in an area (details supplied) were closed in March 2025 due to no psychologists being in post; if the service remains closed for this reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy, Ó Broin,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) can confirm that the Primary Care Psychology Service in Dublin West covers the Community Healthcare Areas of Clondalkin, Lucan, and Ballyfermot-Palmerstown. Currently, there are a number of vacant Psychologist positions across the area which led to a 100% vacancy rate in this service in January 2025, as a result the Psychology service was suspended at this time. There have been challenges in recruiting qualified trained professionals across many primary care services including the Psychology Service. The HSE continue to review service needs and prioritise services for recruitment in line with the HSE's Pay and Numbers strategy, 3 WTE Psychology posts have been approved and are progressing through stages of recruitment for Dublin West area. A new staff member is due to commence in the coming months, and the service plans to recommence when this candidate is in post.

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

Yours sincerely,

Brian Kearney
Head of Primary Care
Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West, Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare Areas, HSE Dublin & Midlands