



Oifig an Bhainisteoir Limistéar Sláinte
Comhtháite - Lár na Tíre

Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An Tulach
Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35 TY28

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3rd October, 2025

Deputy Séan Fleming T.D.,
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question - 44864/25

To ask the Minister for Health the length of time the vacancy for a children and young persons Occupational Therapist & Dietician in Co. Laois has been open; the expected date for when an appointment will be made; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Fleming,

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 outline the position as follows.

There are currently no Children's and Young Persons Occupational Therapists or Dietitians in post in Primary Care services in Co. Laois. There was previously 2 Whole Time Equivalent full-time posts in Occupational Therapy in Laois and a 0.5 WTE Dietitian post for Co. Laois.

The Health Service Executive's services are requested to work within Midlands Integrated Healthcare Area are operating under the HSE's Pay & Numbers Strategy (PNS), which allows for recruitment of staffing within specific WTE limits and timeframes.

As the Occupational Therapy posts for Laois (2 WTE) and Dietitian post for Laois (0.5WTE) were vacant on the 31.12.2023 they are no longer categorised as approved posts under the HSE's Pay & Numbers Strategy.

Recruitment of a Children's and Young Persons Occupational Therapist and Dietitian are among the highest priority posts put forward for the Networks in Laois. We are awaiting approval in order to progress these posts.

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,

Joe Campbell
Interim - Integrated Healthcare Area Manager, Midlands
Dublin and Midlands Regional Area