

Office of the Head of Primary Care South East Community Healthcare HSE Offices, Lacken **Dublin Road** Kilkenny

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17th May 2022

Mr. Brendan Howlin TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ 23943/22

To ask the Minister for Health when the specialised chronic disease management team will be in place in County Wexford under the Enhanced Community Care Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Howlin,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.

The Chronic disease programme is an integral part of the Enhanced Community Care developments in Co. Wexford. Wexford was commenced as phase 2 of the project with national notification of posts received toward the end of 2021. Primary Care Services in Wexford have been intensively involved in recruitment for 32 positions across the 3 target groups of the Chronic Disease programme. Many of these posts are at the final stage of recruitment. However, there are challenges in relation to recruiting a number of key positions in physiotherapy, podiatry and dietetics which the HSE hopes to progress during the year.

In the interim, Primary Care Services are engaging with Wexford General Hospital to commence the governance and operational arrangements to develop integrated pathways of care across key areas. GP and primary care integration will also be a priority in line with developments in primary care which have also progressed in 2022.

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

Yours sincerely,

Anna Marie Lanigan Head of Service-Primary Care

Assistant National Director

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