

Office of the Head of Primary Care Services Community Health Organisation Midlands Louth Meath

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28th March 2024

Deputy Ged Nash Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

Re: PQ 49456/23 – Further to Parliamentary Question No. 542 of 14 February 2023, if it can be confirmed when the promised resource for the Drogheda area, by way of provision for a full-time staff post on the Drug-Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement (DRIVE) programme, as provided for in Budget 2023, will be delivered, and if he will make a statement on the matter – Ged Nash

Dear Deputy Nash,

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 of Health for response. In preparing this response your representation has been discussed with the relevant Managers. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The HSE procurement office developed an e-tender for this position on behalf of the Community Healthcare Organisations, CHO8 and CHO1 (North East areas). The HSE can advise following the tendering process, MQI (Merchants Quay Ireland) has confirmed they will be developing this post in consultation with the HSE Addiction Services and the North East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force in Q1 2024 for the North East area to include Louth, Meath, Cavan and Monaghan.

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,

Joseph Ruane

Head of Primary Care Services

Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation