



12/04/2024

Deputy Mark Ward
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 50058/23

To ask the Minister for Health for an update on primary healthcare nurse staffing levels in Rathcoole, County Dublin; how parents can access their child's three-month primary healthcare nurse check-up in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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 can confirm that there are staff shortages in the Public Health Nursing (PHN) Service across CHO7 Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow (DSKWW). This has been further impacted by the recent recruitment pause in the HSE. The staff shortages are impacting the delivery of routine nursing services and developmental screening assessments in Dublin West. The Dublin West Nursing service has implemented a system of prioritisation to try and meet the essential nursing needs of clients in areas where there is limited staffing. Every effort is being made to recruit staff and Public Health Nursing Students to the area.

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, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare