



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

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27th March 2024

Mr. Sean Fleming T.D,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question – 53421/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider opening an extra facility for dental treatment to relieve the backlog at a location (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter

(Details) - Portlaoise County Laois

Dear Minister Fleming,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows;

Unfortunately, the total Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) of Dentists in the HSE Public Dental Service in Laois/Offaly has reduced from 8.0 WTE to 5.2WTE in the past 12 months. We have conducted three recruitment campaigns but have not had any candidate accept a post in the Midlands.

The Laois Dental Service are constantly striving to improve access to our services by offering overtime, seeking to recruit Agency staff and running further recruitment campaigns.

CHO8 Dental Services are currently going through the process of tendering for General Anaesthetic treatment in Mullingar & Meath and this should have a positive impact on waiting lists.

I trust the above is in order and 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