



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála
National Screening Service

12 December 2023

Deputy Róisín Shortall
roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Our Ref: HM/Communications

PQ54381/23: To ask the Minister for Health if a company will be in a position to begin the diabetic retina screening programme in January 2024 (details supplied); if this organisation has signed its contract with the National Screening Service; the reason the National Screening Service appointed a sole bidder for all of Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: NEC

Dear Deputy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

The National Screening Service (NSS) has signed a new contract for diabetic retina screening services following a procurement process earlier this year.

This new contract is with NEC Care which will start providing services nationwide for the NSS's Diabetic RetinaScreen programme on 01 January 2024. NEC Care has been providing diabetic retina screening services on behalf of the NSS since 2013 at Ireland. Diabetic RetinaScreen is provided at over 130 locations.

Under the new contract, NEC Care will begin providing services in some locations around Leinster locations where screening has been provided by a different contractor. We have been working closely with both providers to ensure a smooth changeover before the new contract begins. NEC Care is making all necessary arrangements to ensure that services are in place in existing locations, where possible, from 01 January 2024.

We are writing to people whose screening provider is changing to let them know that there will be no change to their appointment schedule and to assure them of the continued quality of the service they will receive.

Should there be any changes to our screening locations, including additional locations that may become available under the new contract, we will let people know. This information will also be made available publicly on our [website](https://www.nss.ie). Screening participants can contact us on info@diabeticretinascreen.ie or Freephone 1800 45 45 55 if they have any questions.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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National Screening Service



An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Cioch
The National Breast Screening Programme



AN CLÁR NÁISIÚNTA SCAGTHÁSTÁLA CERIBHEACS
THE NATIONAL CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMME



An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Púitige
The National Bowel Screening Programme



An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Retine do Diaibéitigh
The National Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme



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Fiona Murphy,
Chief Executive.

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