



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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Deputy Patricia Ryan,
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 33313/24

To ask the Minister for Health given the increased distances to be covered by public health nurse in rural communities, if it is intended to increase the number of public health nurses in rural areas, and specifically in CHO7, to ensure that rural patients under the care of public health nurses receive the prescribed necessary level of care and number of visits.

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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 in Kildare and West Wicklow, Public Health Nurses are allocated to Primary Care centres and Health Centres across the County. Each Primary Care Centre or Health Centre covers a geographical area in an agreed radius, which includes both urban and rural areas.

The distances that Public Health Nurses travel vary based on individual clients addresses. Services are delivered in line with clinical priority. The service regularly reviews areas where there is increased clinical demand and allocate staff as available and as required.

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
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