



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach  
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire,  
An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin,  
An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

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27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Deputy Sorca Clarke T.D.  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: Parliamentary Question - 12603/24**

***“To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE lactation consultants based in CHO8 in 2023 and to-date in 2024, in tabular form”***

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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 for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The following table details the lactation consultants based per County in 2023 and 2024:

Area	2023	2024	Comment
Laois	1.0 WTE PHN	1.0 WTE PHN	PHN covering a full adult/child caseload who, coincidentally, has a lactation consultant qualification.
Offaly	1.0 WTE PHN	1.0 WTE PHN	PHN qualified as and working in Consultant Lactation role only.
Offaly	1.0 WTE PHN	1.0 WTE PHN	PHN covering a full adult/child caseload who, coincidentally, has a lactation consultant qualification.
Laois/Offaly	Nil	1.0 WTE PHN	PHN appointed to CNM2 ‘Infant Feeding and Lactation post’ from national primary notification number received. This PHN is currently on leave and will take up this position May 2024. The requirement for this post did not include a lactation consultant qualification.



<b>Meath</b>		1.0 WTE	CNM2 in Infant Feeding and Lactation commenced in this role in Co. Meath on 1/09/2023.
<b>Longford/Westmeath</b>		1.0 WTE PHN	Infant feeding/ Breastfeeding Lead dedicated to Longford Westmeath
<b>Louth</b>		0.5 WTE	CNM2 Infant Feeding/ Lactation nurses

I trust the above is in order, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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Joseph Ruane  
Head of Primary Care Services  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation