Limistéar Sláinte Comhtháite Bhaile Átha Cliath Chathair Theas & Thiar, Bhaile Átha Cliath Thiar Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

> Head of Primary Care Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West, Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare Areas, Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 KDC2

> > Email: cho7.pqreps@hse.ie Tel: (045) 882 597

19/11/2024.

Deputy Réada Cronin, Dáil Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ ref 42558/24 - To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the availability of GP services in rural areas of Kildare, particularly addressing any shortages in Monasterevin and surrounding areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cronin,

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 there are currently 96 contracted GPs with HSE General Medical Services (GMS) panels across County Kildare providing services to the rural and urban population of Athy, Celbridge, Leixlip, Naas, Clane, Rathangan, Newbridge, Kilcock, Johnstownbridge, Kilcullen, Kill, Castledermot, Maynooth, Sallins, Ballymore Eustace, Monasterevin, Derrinturn and Kildare town. These GPs are providing healthcare services on behalf of the HSE to holders of a GMS or GP Visit card through various HSE contracts.

In early 2024, the HSE carried out a recruitment campaign for a patient list in Monasterevin, and the successful candidate accepted the position in April. Unfortunately, the candidate subsequently advised the HSE that they were no longer in a position to take up the post and the HSE re-advertised the panel for recruitment in late August. However, this has not been successful in appointing another successful candidate. The HSE is now considering its next steps in this regard.

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,

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Brian Kearney Head of Primary Care Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West, Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare Areas, HSE Dublin & Midlands