



**Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar**
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community
Healthcare West**
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

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27th September 2024

Mr. Denis Naughten, T.D.,
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 34445/24

**** To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 269 of 16th May 2024, when the vacancy for a community nursing position for psychiatry of later life, based at a facility (Ballinalsee), will be filled; if the post has been advertised; the period of time this position has been vacant; the number of patients on the caseload of the previous nurse prior to the post being vacated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.****

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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 the following outlines the position;

There are currently two vacant positions on the Psychiatry of Later Life Community Team. These positions became vacant on May 29, 2023 and May 5, 2024. The caseload of each previous post holder has been distributed among the remaining Multi-Disciplinary Team for follow-up and care, with the support of agency and overtime staff. We have sought approval to fill these vacant positions, and the approval will be in accordance with the HSE and the Department of Health's 2024 Pay and Numbers Strategy. All new staff will be hired within the limits set out for each region.

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

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Meehan
Head of Mental Health Services
Community Healthcare West