



Office of the Head of Primary Care  
Services  
Community Health Organisation  
Midlands Louth Meath

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27th January 2025

Deputy Brian Stanley  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re PQ 46178/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health if the situation of only one part-time palliative care social worker covering all of counties Laois and Offaly will be rectified, given other counties with a similar population have two full-time palliative care social workers.**

Dear Deputy Stanley

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 outlined the position as follows.

Currently there is one Senior Social Worker on the Laois/Offaly Palliative Care Team working 3 days per week (0.6WTE).

An additional Senior Social Worker post has been sought from the National Service Plan for 2025 and I anticipate that this will be approved.

I trust the above is in order but 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