

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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Aoife Brennan Staff Officer

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## Item 72949

"That this Council agrees to write to the HSE and the Minister for Health outlining the growing concerns of the vastly expanding population of Lucan West, namely the newer development areas of Adamstown, St Helen's, Shackleton, Hallwell, Gandon, Somerton and the Paddocks, all within an SDZ, yet still totally void of a single local GP service, dental practitioner or pharmacy. The recognition for delivery of primary healthcare facilities must now be addressed as a matter of urgency and fast-tracked to meet the health demands in line with this rapid growth."

Dear Ms Brennan,

With reference to your recently received request for information, I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has plans to develop new Primary Care Centres (PCCs) at Adamstown, Lucan, Rowlagh and Liffey Valley, and all are progressing at this time. In line with Slaintecare, the HSE aims to deliver a comprehensive range of services from these locations, to serve the needs of the area's residents.

Currently there are HSE Dental Services located at Rosse Court centre and Lucan village, delivering services for children under age 16, and adults with special needs. With respect to General Dental Surgeon practices, the HSE does not restrict the number of Dental Surgeons who may practice in an area. Neither can the HSE dictate the location at which a Dental Surgeon chooses to practice. Such decisions are market driven for Dentists. All Dental Surgeons are entitled to take out a contract with the HSE to provide services to medical card holders on the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS), provided the set criteria are met. HSE does not restrict the number of Dentists in an area, who may take out a DTSS contract.

The situation regarding GP practices in any given location is the same as that for General Dental Surgeons outlined above. However, the HSE makes every effort to work with and encourage practices to locate in and near new Primary Care Centres.

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,

Mary O'Kelly

**Head of Service, Primary Care** 

**Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare**