

30th November 2018

Deputy Catherine Martin, TD
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 46937/18

** * To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that no replacement has been provided to cover maternity leave for the clinical psychologist in the HSE Early Intervention Team in Churchtown, Dublin 14; the efforts being made to find a replacement; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Martin,

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.

Approval was granted to cover the period of maternity leave for this post. I have been informed by the Head of this Service that despite efforts to recruit via an agency it was unsuccessful and the post remained vacant. However, a recruitment process was carried and the service is hopeful that a psychologist will be in the post by the end of January 2019.

A plan will be put in place to follow up on priority referrals for assessment and intervention and the Head of Service will work closely with other members of the Early Intervention Team in supporting the locum psychologist in undertaking this work.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Claire Waldron
General Manager for Social Care