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3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

## PQ ref 50669/19

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the distress caused to families in the Inishowen area of County Donegal by the delays in signing off on an autism therapist post for the area to replace the previous person who stepped down from the role in 2018; and if the post will be signed off as soon as possible.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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.

The Autism Therapist post has been submitted for approval to the National Director of Community Operations. On receipt of approval, the Donegal Human Resources Department will complete the recruitment campaign for this post.

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Cosgrove

General Manager, Disability Services CHO 1 Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhisi Michumais ESP 1