



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

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Oifig an Phríomh-Oifigigh
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20th December 2019

Eamon O'Cuiv TD
Dail Eireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 51126/19

To ask the Minister for Health when the psychologist vacancy in respect of the early intervention service in Spiddal, County Galway will be filled: the reason for the delay in filling the vacancy: and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Cuiv,

I refer to PQ ref 51126/19 due for response by 24th December 2019 concerning when the psychologist vacancy in respect of the early intervention service in Spiddal, will be filled.

The HSE has been requested to respond to you directly regarding this matter. The following outlines the current position.

We are advised by the HSE that while there is no recruitment embargo or moratorium, there is a priority requirement for all HSE services to maintain, or get to, an affordable staffing level that is sustainable in 2019 and 2020, while also prioritising the delivery of safe services.

In light of this, the HSE advise that they have introduced control measures relating to staffing and recruitment to ensure that they live within the available resources provided to them. This does mean that in some Hospital Groups and Community Healthcare Organisations non-critical replacement posts will be paused. The preference is for these controls to remain in place for as short a period as necessary, with on-going review until there is satisfactory evidence of traction and delivery of balanced financial plans from Hospital Groups and CHO's. The HSE report that there is on-going capacity for recruitment of newly funded posts and replacement of critical clinical posts within frontline services throughout this period.

This Psychologist post was approved by CHW Payroll Monitoring Control Group in November, and submitted to the National Directors Office on 4th December for derogation. Once approval is received, our Recruitment Office is instructed immediately to proceed with the Recruitment process.

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

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Moran,
Head of Human Resources, Community Healthcare West
St. Mary's Headquarters, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

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