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7<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Deputy Stephen Donnelly, T.D.,  
Dail Eireann,  
Kildare St.,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your Parliamentary Question below which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

**PQ 52257/19; To ask the Minister for Health the number of general practitioners employed by the HSE on a salaried basis in each year since 2016 - Stephen Donnelly.**

*The Programme for Partnership Government (2016) promotes the enhancement of primary care recognising that it needs to build GP capacity to respond to patients needs and provide access to safe, timely care, as close to patients' homes as possible. It recognises that to guarantee the future sustainability of rural practice and in disadvantaged urban areas that proposals to support GP practices are required. It states that 'the HSE will be mandated to employ GPs on a salaried basis where needed and put in place support structures and staff'.*

To date the position of salaried GP and arrangements in relation to the employment of GP's by the HSE have not been put in place in a standardised way. In a very limited number of situations, at specific points in time, arrangements have been put in place to cover a capitation panel amount payment, so as to maintain GP services in remote rural locations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley'.

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**Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**