

21st May 2019

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RE: PQ 20850/19 - To ask the Minister for Health if all agency staff in the position of both nursing and care assistants are Garda vetted

Dear Deputy McLoughlin

Many thanks for your representation PQ 20850/19 in relation to the Garda Vetting of all agency staff in the positions of both nursing and Care Assistants.

In this regard, I wish to inform you that a procured Agency Framework is in place to provide agency Doctors, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals, Health Care Assistants and Social Care Workers to HSE and Tulsa Services nationally. This framework was established to ensure that all locum cover for these grades, required by the HSE / Tusla services, could be sourced at the most competitive market price while ensuring a high level of compliance in relation to the standard of health care professionals required.

All agencies on this framework are required to ensure that all agency workers assigned to the HSE / Tusla have their full suite of clearance documentation in place before they are permitted to work. This includes, eligibility qualification, reference checks, Garda Vetting / Police Clearance and occupational health clearance.

If there is anything further you require in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to revert.

Yours sincerely

Fithhe Fox

Assistant National Director HBS HR