

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett, Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An Mhí Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

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3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2019

Mr. Brian Stanley T.D., Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question - 47109/19

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to fill the vacant audiologist positions in counties Laois and Offaly; the progress being made on the matter; and the expected date for the posts to be filled - Brian Stanley.

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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 outline the position as follows.

Please note there are three vacancies in our Audiology services which have eroded our capacity to provide services. Derogation to fill these posts was received this week from the National Director and we are working with the National Recruitment Service (NRS) to proceed with the advertisement of these posts as soon as possible. In the interim we have some part time audiologists working on the wait list.

4 Billion Comment

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Bennett

Chief Officer CHO Area 8