Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County Bainisteoir Ginearálta Cúram Príomhúil,

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath, Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna, Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

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General Manager Primary Care,

HSE Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County, Ballymun Healthcare Facility, Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

Mr. Thomas P. Broughan, TD Dáil Éireann Kildare Street Dublin 2

12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

PQ 49559/19 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time paediatric audiologists working in CHO area 9 in 2017, 2018 and to-date in 2019; his plans to increase the number; and if he will make a statement on the matter; – Thomas P. Broughan

Dear Deputy Broughan,

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 in Dublin North City and County (DNCC).

| No. of Paediatric Audiologists – DNCC |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 2017                                  | 2.3 WTE |
| 2018                                  | 2.9 WTE |
| 2019                                  | 2.9 WTE |

Please note the figures given are Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) and represent paediatric audiologists working in the Community Audiology Service in DNCC.

There is currently one vacant paediatric audiologist post in DNCC, however, the HSE currently has temporary employment controls in place which has affected the filling of this post. The purpose of these controls is to ensure that the HSE is demonstrating that it is operating within the available resources provided to it by Government. As part of these controls, derogation for each post is required from the National Director, Community Operations before the filling of the vacancy. Derogation approval has been received for this post which will now progress to recruitment stage.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mechale Sorola

Michelle Forde General Manager

**Primary Care**