



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

17<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Deputy Stephen Donnelly TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**RE: PQ 40370 19:** *To ask the Minister for Health the agency spend on staff from 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2019 or the latest date available in each community healthcare organisation in tabular form*

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

Please see the table below which shows Agency staff costs by HSE CHO area for the period January to August 2019, this being the most recent period for which information is available. Please note that this data is for HSE Statutory services only. The data was sourced from the HSE Consolidated Finance Intelligence (CFI) System. The 2019 data is draft and unaudited and therefore is subject to change.

<b>Agency costs by CHO Area for the period January to August 2019</b>		
<b>HSE Statutory only</b>		
		<b>*YTD Aug 2019</b>
<b>Community Health Organisations</b>		<b>€000s</b>
CHO	CHO 1	11,977
	CHO 2	14,979
	CHO 3	7,820
	CHO 4	4,312
	CHO 5	17,731
	CHO 6	9,494
	CHO 7	17,992
	CHO 8	21,176
	CHO 9	6,479
National Services	National/Regional Services	1,177
<b>CHO Total</b>		<b>113,137</b>
<i>Source: HSE Consolidated Finance Intelligence (CFI) System</i>		
<i>*Note: 2019 figures are draft, unaudited and subject to change</i>		

Agency expenditure should be considered in the overall context including increasing demand for services; the impact of earlier constraints on recruitment in the public service; on-going challenges in relation to the recruitment and retention of clinical staff; actions necessary to support compliance with the European Working Time Directive and efforts to reduce expenditure on agency staff.

The HSE is committed to minimizing the use of Agency staff but recruitment and retention of Clinical, Nursing and other key staff is a constant challenge and impacts adversely on our ability to maintain safe and effective services. Agency staffing is also used to allow for flexible services designed to meet specific Service User needs and some short term requirements. Agency pay cost is under constant review and where possible is replaced by HSE staff.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 045 882559.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

---

Sarah Anderson  
General Manager Corporate Finance  
National Finance Division, HSE  
Email: [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie)  
Tel: 045 882559