

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.

t: 057 9359787/774 d: CHO8@hse.ie Office of Mr. Pat Bennett, Chief Officer, Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation, Health Service Executive, Area Office, Arden Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

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22nd October, 2019

Mr. Robert Troy T.D., Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question - 43114/19

To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE in CHO area 8 is taking on agency staff to fill positions in which an employment panel is currently running and suitable candidates are available to commence full-time and permanent employment from this list; and his views on whether agency recruitment offers value for money in view of the continued budget overruns within the HSE - Robert Troy.

Dear Deputy Troy,

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.

I wish to confirm that my response to you dated 11th October, 2019 under reference number 38995/19 refers.

Agency clerical staff have been engaged in some cases to cover absences arising from sick leave or maternity leave. In a very small number of cases vacant posts are covered by agency staff pending approval to fill under the employment control measures in place, at which stage these agency staff will be replaced by appointments from the current clerical officer panel.

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