



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte

Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'

Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources

Health Service Executive

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PQ 37833/19

2nd October 2019

To ask the Minister for Health the proposals in place for job opportunities for speech and language therapists (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter

*Minister we have a situation where newly qualified personnel who are qualified as speech & Language therapists have no employment opportunities. There was supposed to be panel interviews held during the summer of 2019 for these positions and these interviews did not happen. A lot of these people will now have to consider the option of leaving their home country to go work abroad. This is a terrible situation for these individuals especially when it is quite clear that we need speech & language therapists.*

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

There is a priority requirement for all services to maintain, or get to, an affordable staffing level that is sustainable in 2019 and 2020, whilst prioritising the delivery of safe services.

The Health Service Executive is authorised to retain Speech Therapists within the context of budget control and expenditure limit. Furthermore, the Health Service Executive is currently in the process of assessing/making every effort to retain Speech Therapists on this basis, reliant on available funded vacancies, service development posts, and anticipated rates of attrition.

Speech and Language Therapist posts have been filled this year across the Services from the existing national panel, in addition a national supplementary recruitment campaign for Speech and Language Therapist Grade was advertised on the 25th September 2019. All future posts will be reviewed by the relevant National Director taking account of skill mix and providing assurance of quality of care delivered to service users.

Yours sincerely

Ursula Galvin  
Business Manager



Seirbhís Sláinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt

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