



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

8<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Deputy Maurice Quinlivan TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ 38246 19:** *To ask the Minister for Health the number of workers employed by his Department and in each office or agency under the aegis of his Department that earn less than the living wage of €12.30 per hour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Maurice Quinlivan*

Dear Deputy Quinlivan,

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.

The National Minimum Wage is a statutory entitlement and has a legislative basis. The Low Pay Commission annually assesses the appropriate level of the National Minimum Wage. The current national minimum hourly rate of pay, since 1 January 2019, is €9.80 per hour, as set out in the National Minimum Wage Order 2018. As a Statutory entity we are obliged to pay the National Minimum Wage. The Living Wage has no legislative basis and is therefore not a statutory entitlement.

The number of HSE staff employed who are paid at a gross basic hourly rate of below €12.30 per hour is 895. All of these 895 staff are either student, trainee or intern staff. This number is based on headcount figures as per the August 2019 HR file and the most recent pay scales, being September 2019 pay scales. Please note that the data comprises currently employed Statutory HSE staff only.

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

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