



14th December 2020

Deputy Thomas Gould,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 39540/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nurses who have been redeployed due to the Covid-19 pandemic by county in tabular form.

- Thomas Gould

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The table below represents the total number of Public Health Nurses who were reassigned to support Covid-19 testing and tracing nationally, these figures are based on the latest census of re-deployment which took place at the end of November. The information is not collected at County level and accordingly we cannot provide you with that detail. It is planned that as Covid specific staff are recruited there will be a return of staff back to core duties.

Staff Type	Contact Tracing	Testing
Number of Public Health Nurses	2	19

The key document in terms of returning staff to their substantive posts is titled "Service Continuity in a Covid Environment. A Strategic Framework for Delivery".

This framework document was prepared in June 2020 and provides the framework for staff to return to their substantive posts from Covid related work.

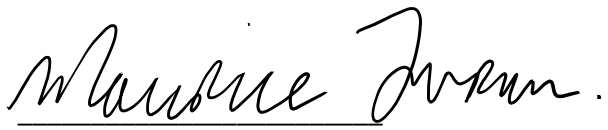
A link to the document is provided below:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/service-continuity-in-a-covid-environment-a-strategic-framework-for-delivery1.pdf>

Implementing the road map for staff to return to their substantive posts is a priority for Community Services that is being balanced with the dynamic and fluid requirements for community testing and tracing.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice Farnan." The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Maurice Farnan
A/A.N.D. Community Operations