



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúile

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BY EMIAL ONLY

16th December 2020

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ Ref.: 42382/20

To ask the Minister for Health if a lead public health clinician is employed by the HSE; if not, if the position will be filled; the reason for not filling same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Barrett,

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 the following outlines the position.

Response:

Dr Lorraine Doherty, National Clinical Director for Health Protection is the lead public health clinician guiding the HSE's health protection service. Dr Doherty was appointed in March 2020 and in her role, has direct responsibility for the provision of clinical leadership, managerial oversight and strategic policy direction for Health Protection in Ireland, including the work of the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), the National Immunisation Office, the Departments of Public Health and the work of Medical Officers of Health appointed by the HSE.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre McNamara
Assistant National Director
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer