



Mr. Paul Donnelly T.D

Dail Eireann

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

23rd July 2020

Re: PQ 17143/20

To ask the Minister for Health if he will seek to reverse the upcoming wage decrease in September 2020 for student nurses on 4-year internships; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Mr. Donnelly,

I refer to above PQ17143/20 to the Minister for Health which has been passed to the HSE for reply.

The issues raised in your correspondence are addressed in the provisions of HSE HR Circular 048/2020, sanction for the extension of temporary hiring of student nurses/midwives year 1-3 and year 4 as Health Care Assistants. (Copy attached)

The provisions of this circular provide for the following;

1. Temporary HCA contracts for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year nursing and midwifery students, that were part of the existing initiative, will have their temporary contracts extended until 31st August 2020.
2. The HCA pay scale will also continue to apply to all 4th year nursing and midwifery interns, including 4th year, Childrens and General interns that are completing the 2020 student nurse/midwife internship placement. The HCA pay scale shall also continue to apply to this 2020 cohort in taking up "awaiting registration" posts prior to being employed as a staff nurse/midwife for an expected period of 6 weeks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Delamere', written over a horizontal line.

John Delamere,
Head of Corporate Employee Relations