



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

12th August 2020

Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re PQ 18082 20: *To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of employing 150 psychologists.*

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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 estimated annual cost of employing an additional 150 Psychologists Clinical (Grade Code 3689) is €11.2m.

The estimate was provided by the National Pay Unit of the National Finance Division and is calculated using the mid-point of the January 2020 HSE pay scales. From this, an average annual fully burdened salary is calculated (i.e. including average premium and employers PRSI) for the Grade and position noted. It is also adjusted upwards to take into account 2020 pay awards and pay cost pressures.

In addition to the pay costs above it is reasonable to assume that there are other non-pay costs associated with the recruitment process i.e. advertising, interview boards, possible travel expenses etc. which would also be incurred. There may also be ancillary support services associated with the new posts arising from the implied additional activity that would be undertaken as a result of the increased number of staff. Some of these services may be drawn from existing cost pools however there may be incremental costs incurred i.e. facilities costs, admin support, medical support teams etc. These have not been included in the estimates above.

The estimated annual pay costs of employing additional staff must be considered in this context.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at sarah.anderson1@hse.ie or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Anderson

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