

Health Service Executive

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Átha Cliath 8

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To: Richard Boyd Barrett, T.D.

3rd June 2020

PQ 7024/20 To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a series of matters (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett

1. Responded by DOH

. *if a commitment will be given to permanently increase the capacity in the health service to the European average in view of the fact the health service is perceived as inadequate in normal times and in further view of the Covid-19 crisis and possible future pandemics; if a commitment will be given to recruit the nurses, midwives and other healthcare workers to ensure this capacity; if nursing places in third-level education will be increased to ensure this future recruitment; if pay parity between nurses, midwives and other healthcare professionals will be committed to;*

2. Forwarded to the HSE for Response (Response provided below) if the pay award won by nurses after industrial action in 2019 will be paid by all hospital groups and other employers

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question above. The first part of this PQ is addressed by the COH and (2) was sent to the HSE for reply.

The HSE accepted the Labour Court Recommendations LCR 21900 and 21901 relating to matters affecting nurses. The effective date of commencement is 1st March 2019.

The HSE and Section 38 Agencies are fully engaged in the implementation of the recommendations and many nurses have benefitted to the full extent of the pay adjustment measures. Work continues to ensure that all outstanding pay adjustments are completed as expeditiously as possible under current working conditions.

In relation to one specific element of the recommendations, implementation of the Enhanced Nurse/ Midwife contract and Senior Enhanced Nurse/ Midwife contract, as of 30th April 2020, 2,232 had been appointed to these grades.

Yours sincerely

Marie d' Sullwan

Marie O Sullivan HSE National HR