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**Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 38351/20: To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists which have withdrawn from the dental treatment services scheme in 2020; the number in the scheme at 1 January 2020; the number in the scheme at 1 November 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme through care provided by private dentists that hold DTSS contracts with the HSE.

As of the 4th December 2020, 174 dentists have withdrawn from the DTSS in 2020. The PCERS/DTSS report for January 2020 listed 1497 private dentists with contracts and same report for November 2020 listed 1377 private dentists with contract. This figure would also include new entrants, so there was a net difference of 120 dentists.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Green', written over a horizontal line.

**Joseph Green
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations**