



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
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18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Mariead Farrell, T.D.

**PQ 24258/ 20: To ask the Minister for Health his plans to build extra capacity for those that applied for Ireland's call -**

Dear Deputy,

I refer to you recent Parliamentary Question which was passed to the HSE for response.

As the government's responds to the COVID challenge in terms of changes in roadmap and testing requirements, so too will the HSE's response in terms of workforce and its deployment. The workforce requirement is under on-going review in response to government decisions and subsequent HSE operational and strategic service delivery decisions. The HSE is conscious that the new healthcare landscape will require a service response that encompasses both a COVID and non-COVID approach

The "Be on Call for Ireland" initiative was launched on St Patrick's Day. The main priority of this project was to provide "job ready" health care professionals to the health services in the event of the anticipated increase in hospital beds and community service staffing requirements.

A large number of applications were received and extensive online and telephone interviews took place to determine relevant candidates' availability to work and to determine that candidates were suitably qualified or experienced. The number of candidates of candidates who indicated they were available to work and had the relevant experience needed by the services at that time was progressed to 'job ready'.

Posts are offered to 'job ready' candidates when requested by the management of the Community and Acute services.

Yours sincerely

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National HR