



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources

Health Service Executive
Dr. Steevens' Hospital
Dublin 8

Tel: 01 6352319 Email: nationalhr@hse.ie

6th October 2020

David Cullinane, T.D.

PQ 25352/20: To ask the Minister for Health if staff hired as part of a dedicated Covid-19 testing workforce that come from other parts of the health service will be replaced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary questions which was forwarded to the HSE for response.

From mid February 2020 the HSE began to make preparations to increase significantly the capacity within the health services in anticipation of an unprecedented demand as a result of the global pandemic COVID-19. Redeployment across the health service and public service was part of the response. Health Services staff working in Hospital Groups (HGs) and Community Health Organisations (CHOs) were redeployed within their CHO and HGs. Staff were redeployed from Corporate HSE offices and from the Civil Service to support the pandemic effort.

In order to support the Covid crisis the HSE supplemented its workforce through redeployment across the public and civil service by increasing hours of part time staff and rehiring some retired clinicians.

The HSE workforce has been utilised in an agile manner to support redeployment as required across services based on the skills and competencies required at the time. The HSE is currently reviewing the staffing strategies that were utilised to support the pandemic effort. Central to this review is a Workforce Planning Exercise underway that will align with the HSEs strategic and operational plans for the coming weeks, months and years; identify the level of redeployment, the needs of services and the staffing levels required.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie O'Sullivan".

Marie O Sullivan
National HR

