

20th April, 2021

Mr. Alan Kelly T.D. Kildare Street Dáil Eireann Dublin 2

Re: PQ 18530/21

PQ 18530/21— "To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who have been hired as Covid-19 vaccinators up until 31 March 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Feedback from each of the 38 Centralised Vaccination Centres to-date indicates each has sufficient Vaccinator WTE availability based on our current information on vaccine delivery. For example, on week commencing 19th April, there was a vaccinator requirement of 357 WTEs across all vaccination clinics with approximately 748 WTEs vaccinators in place at that date.

The National Recruitment Campaign was launched on Thursday 18th February to source new Vaccinators from outside the health services for the national roll-out of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. This national campaign has been well received to-date and primarily focuses on the supply of vaccinators to vaccination clinics. As of 29th March, 3,107 applicants were deemed eligible through the Cpl channel and, of those eligible, 238 candidates had confirmed start dates. This figure has and will further increase over the next number of weeks as candidates complete their vaccine specific training, obtain recruitment clearances and confirm start dates.

Centralised Vaccination Clinics are also being supported through existing vaccination teams or via agencies or local recruitment. Regional leads for vaccination clinics are also engaging with Local Authorities to access staff and other support through state bodies in line with the mandate from the Department of the Taoiseach. Roles include Administration, IT Support and general support.

Yours sincerely,

Frances McNamara

Assistant National Director,

Office of the Chief Operations Officer