

Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8 R: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8 E: <u>clinicaldesign@hse.ie</u>

22nd April 2021

Deputy Catherine Connolly, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE: PQ 19826/21

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a proposal (details supplied) to resource seven additional eye clinic liaison officer posts around the country; his plans in this regard; the details of any analysis carried out by his Department into the creation of these additional posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Connolly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology and I have been informed that the following outlines the position.

National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Ophthalmology notes this proposal from NCBI to the Department for funding for Eye Clinic Liaison Officers. NCP for Ophthalmology is familiar with this non-clinical role, as there is an individual in that position in the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital (RVEEH), Dublin. This role provides an important and worthwhile service providing support for eye patients and their families. They are and would be, a valuable resource in all units, but this is subject to available resources.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan General Manager

