

06th May 2021

Deputy David Cullinane Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2. Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine Aonad <u>4A</u> – Áras Dargan An Ceantar Theas An Bothar Mileata Cill Mhaighneann BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

<u>PQ 19930/21</u> To ask the Minister for Health if additional funding will be provided to resource additional eye clinic liaison officer posts in ophthalmology clinics that provide service outside Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 19953/21 To ask the Minister for Health the number of eye clinic liaison officer posts in ophthalmology clinics by county; if he will fund seven posts resourced through the HSE to provide the service outside Dublin as per the request by an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Following representations, the HSE met with the NCBI in December 2020. The NCBI identified the potential benefits associated with the introduction of Eye Care Liaison Officer posts and experience from introduction of such posts in specific Hospitals. No specific resources were allocated to the HSE to support this development in 2021. However, the HSE are examining the potential to support NCBI in 2021 within current resources. The HSE will engage directly with NCBI directly in this regard.

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

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Robert Kidd Assistant National Director Acute Operations