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2nd March 2021

Deputy Alan Kelly,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 7919/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of all section 39 organisations and workers that have received pay restoration ordered by the Workplace Relations Commission to date; the organisations that have yet to receive pay restoration; when all section 39 workers will receive pay restoration; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Alan Kelly

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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

The number of voluntary S39 Agencies in receipt of funding varies each year. From our records there were circa 2281 Voluntary Agencies funded under Section 39 of the Health Act 2004, and managed by the application of either a Grant Aid Agreement (S39- GA) or a Service Arrangement (S39- SA) in 2019. These figures are taken from the Service Provider Governance (SPG) system which is not a financial or payment system but monitors the funding arrangements as recorded by the operational system.

A total of circa 1,958 agencies received funding of less of €250,000 through a Grant Aid Agreement, 671 of these agencies received once off National Lottery Funding only. A further 323 signed Service Arrangements with the HSE.

The HSE have engaged directly with those agencies managed by a Service Arrangement, who were in receipt of funding during the years of the pay deductions, who remain funded by the HSE in 2019 and who were subjected to deductions in their allocations.

Of the 323 S39 voluntary Agencies funded under Service Arrangements, 16 Agencies had not received funding prior to 2014 and 13 are nursing homes or state bodies, with the exception of those 29, all remaining S39 Agencies funded by a Service Arrangement have been directly contacted by the HSE and will have received funding relating to pay restoration.

All remaining S39 Agencies have been contacted directly by the HSE to manage the pay restoration process.

State Bodies are not affected by Pay restoration issues, and nursing homes are in the main paid by a capitation rate and should not be affected by funding issues relating to pay restoration

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne O'Neill', written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne O'Neill,
Interim National Director,
Community Operations