



Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,  
Áras na hAbhann,  
Crosbhóthar Thamhlachta,  
Tamhlacht,  
Baile Áth Cliath D24 XNP2  
Fón 01 4631624/6.  
Riomhphost: director.nas@hse.ie

Office of the Director of the National Ambulance Service,  
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Telephone: 01 4631624/6.  
Email: director.nas@hse.ie

Ref: MD/SD/PQ/210319

19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House

Re: PQ13181/21

To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter regarding the payment of ambulance service personnel (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.-Richard Boyd Barrett

if he will examine the situation of a group of front line workers , (specifically those employed in the Ambulance service as ICO/EMT operatives), who due to a pay roll error and having worked tirelessly at the front line of the fight against the pandemic, are now facing demands for the return of large amounts of earnings as they were paid double time for overtime during the pandemic as opposed to their normal rate; can the minister look at this and will he intervene with the HSE and any other employers to ensure these workers do not face demands for refunding these amounts as a mark of the gratitude of the state for their efforts during the past years

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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

It is unfortunate that an error occurred as result of payroll system coding, outside of the control of the HSE National Ambulance Service, however the correction ensures payments are made at the correct rate of pay in accordance with national pay agreements.

The recoupment of all overpayments is collectively covered by HSE National Financial Regulations Section 04, compliant with the legislative requirements of the Payment of Wages Act, whereby agreement is reached between HSE Finance and the individual employee on an appropriate and agreeable repayment schedule.

All staff working in the HSE, including National Ambulance Service personnel have performed important roles over the last year which is a separate matter as demonstrated by a national claim lodged by trade unions on behalf of healthcare workers for their COVID 19 response, currently under review nationally to ensure a HSE wide consistent approach.





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I trust this information is of assistance to and should you require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Sharon Dunne, Executive Assistant  
Office of the Director, National Ambulance Service