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David Cullinane, T.D. Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

14th April, 2021

PQ: 17224/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications to positions in the HSE relating to the MCAP due by the end of February 2021; the breakdown by position; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 17224/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The resources required to commence a Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme have been approved under the National Service Plan 2021 and are in the process of being put in place. The resources scoped involve both professional roles and administrative roles.

The Medicinal Cannabis Access programme (including the Cannabis for Medical Use Register) is expected to be in place by the end Q2 2021. An interview process for professional support for 'patient specific applications' such as the MCAP was held earlier this year. There were 22 applications, 14 interviewed and 6 panelled as suitable for such posts. The HR elements for the appointment of the professional roles are near completion.

The Administrative grades for the utilisation claims and payments requirements (post registration on the MCAP) will then be filled from the existing panels in place within the PCRS

Yours sincerely,

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Suzanne Doyle Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service