



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béil,
31-33 Sráid Caitriona, Luimneach
Teil: 061 464140

E: nationaloralhealth@hse.ie

National Oral Health Office
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick
Tel: 061 464140
Email: nationaloralhealth@hse.ie

13 December 2021

**Deputy Verona Murphy
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 58475/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists who were contracted with the HSE under the dental treatment services scheme who have left the scheme in the past 24 months; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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.

Under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) Dentists who have a contract with the Health Services Executive (HSE) can carry out dental treatment on patients who have a medical card. If someone is over 16 years and has a current medical card then that person is entitled to free dental treatment from any of the Dentists on the DTSS list.

Data analysis on DTSS resignations commenced week beginning 6th March 2020. The number of dentists that have withdrawn from the DTSS since March 2020 to end November 2021 due to resignations is 252.

The number of DTSS withdrawals between January 2021 and November 2021 is 182. However, 86 new contracts have been issued during this period.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Green', positioned above a horizontal line.

**Joseph Green
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations**