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30th September 2021

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 43145/21: To ask the Minister for Health the way consultancy firms utilised by the HSE strategy and planning will be managed in the future; the steps that are currently being undertaken by his Department to ensure that HSE staff are utilised in place of consultancy firms moving forward; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which the Minister for Health has referred to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

The HSE's Strategy and Planning function, together with HSE services generally, make use of external provider support in relation to a range of strategic and operational initiatives.

The HSE established a dedicated framework for the provision of business, management consultancy and advisory services for the healthcare sector in November 2016 which is due to expire in October 2021. A new process is currently being established to ensure access, in appropriate circumstances, to external provider support from November 2021 onwards.

In parallel with this process, the HSE has put forward, through the Estimates Process for 2022, proposals to permanently resource these requirements with new HSE staff thereby reducing or eliminating the need for outside consultancy support, wherever possible.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you, however, should you require any further details please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Goff
National Director
Change and Innovation