



Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais
Feidhmeannacht na
Seirbhíse Sláinte
Seomra 125, Ospidéal
Dr. Steevens
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer
Health Service Executive
Room 125, Dr Steevens
Hospital
Dublin 8

9th March 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re PQ 10423 22: *To ask the Minister for Health the consultancies engaged by the HSE from March 2021 to end of December 2021 in excess of €2 million; the full values of these consultancies in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

In compliance with the stipulations of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (“the Code”), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016, the HSE discloses the total Consultancy costs charged to Income and Expenditure in Appendix 2 to the HSE Annual Financial Statements (AFS). Consultancy costs include costs of external expert analysis and advice to management which contributes to decision making or policy direction. It excludes outsourced ‘business as usual’ functions. In order to meet this disclosure requirement, an extensive exercise, involving manual collation from numerous ledger systems and analysis of the data, is completed annually as part of the AFS process. The latest consultancy costs available are contained in the 2020 HSE Annual Financial Statements. These can be accessed from the HSE website at the following link:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/corporate/annualrpts.html> with Appendix 2 located at page 189 of the Report.

I regret to inform you that the same information is not yet available for the year 2021 as the data is not readily available from the HSE Finance ledgers. There are still currently numerous ledger systems in operation in the HSE and therefore differences in coding may arise. As stated above, due to the extensive nature of the collation exercise the process is completed on an annual basis only. The HSE AFS 2021 is expected to be published in May 2022.

The shortcomings in the HSE legacy financial systems are well acknowledged and their replacement by a single standard financial system for the Health Sector is at the core of the Finance Reform programme initiated by the Department of Health.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at sarah.anderson1@hse.ie or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Anderson

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