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07 March 2022

**Deputy Gary Gannon
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 9754/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists that have resigned from the dental treatment services scheme in each of the years 2011 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Gannon,

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.

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) through care provided by private dentists that hold DTSS contracts with the HSE.

The data is detailed in the attached Excel Sheet by LHO for each of the year 2011 to 2021 and to date in 2022.

It should be noted that the difference in the number of contractors between each year include resignations/retirements and new entrants to the scheme.

Data on DTSS resignations is available from March 2020. During In 2020 a total of 176 resignations were recorded. In 2021, the HSE was notified of 93 resignations from the DTSS. To end January 2022, the HSE has been notified of 16 resignations from the DTSS.

A Dentist is not obliged to give a reason for resigning from the scheme.

(Note: contractors who have resigned but are still serving their 3 months' notice period are included in the list as they are required to participate in the scheme for 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', written over a horizontal line.

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