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25<sup>th</sup> July, 2022

Mr. Mark Ward TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ Ref 41529/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the new national psychology placement office; the remit of the office; the amount of funding that has been allocated to the office to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I wish to advise that in December 2020 the National Psychology Project Team, chaired by Dr Cathal Morgan, completed the Report of the National Psychology Project Team: Establishment of a National Psychology Placement Office and Workforce Planning. The Report sets out proposals to establish a national psychology placement function within the HSE, and outlines considerations for a workforce plan for psychological services in the HSE.

During the 2022 estimates process a proposal was submitted by the HSE that included commencement of the implementation of the psychology report together with wider critical practice placement issues across the Health and Social Care Professions recognising the interrelated requirements, to avoid duplication and to maximise economies of scale. Resources to address this estimates bid were not provided or allocated for 2022.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Jackie Reed  
National Lead  
National HSCP Office

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