

29th June 2022

Deputy Pa Daly,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 31510/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of eligible healthcare workers that have already received the Covid recognition payment within County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Daly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In January 2022, the Government directed the Department of Health to provide special additional financial recognition to those eligible frontline health care workers based on the particular additional risks they faced in the performance of their normal duty during the pandemic. In this regard, HSE Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has been actively working to progress the implementation of HSE HR Circular 012/2022 dated 19th of April 2022 which confirms approval to progress the payment of the ‘Pandemic Special Recognition Award’ to relevant employees of the HSE who meet the agreed eligibility criteria. The returns to payroll are being made directly by each Service Area and it is expected that the payments will have been made to all relevant HSE staff within a short timeframe.

With specific regard for the request for details requested relating to payments made to employees of HSE Cork Kerry Community Healthcare who are based in Kerry, our colleagues in HSE South Central Payroll have confirmed that in excess of 1,000 eligible employees working in Kerry have received the payment to date.

In relation to staff not directly employed by the HSE/Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, the Department of Health have advised that it will shortly publish information for those employees and employers. We understand that this will include Health Care Support Assistants (also known as home help / home care / home support) contracted to the HSE but employed by other agencies.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Fitzgerald
Chief Officer
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare