



**Stiúthóra Náisiúnta  
Acmhainní Daonna**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,  
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',  
Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

**National Director  
Human Resources**  
Health Service Executive,  
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Dublin 8, 08 W2A8

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Brendan Howlin T.D.

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

**PQ 35000/22** To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE staff in receipt of special leave with pay who are suffering from long-Covid; if it is intended to cease this payment for frontline staff who have contracted Covid while carrying out their duties; the supports he intends to offer such staff who continue to suffer long-term effects from Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Brendan Howlin

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question which was sent to the HSE for response.

As of 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, there are 57 HSE employees on Covid Leave for more than 84 days. This figure reflects the Covid Leave recorded on SAP HR up to 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022 there are 114 HSE employees on Covid Leave for more than 84 days. This figure reflects the Covid Leave recorded on SAP HR up to 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022.

*The Deputy should note that data supplied is for HSE Areas only. HSE Locations not included HSE South West, PCRS and St Luke's Hospital.*

The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) issued its revised Guidance and FAQs for Public Service Employers during COVID-19 in relation to working arrangements and temporary assignments in May 2022. This national guidance applies to the HSE and the HSE does not have a mandate to depart from these cross-sectoral arrangements as set out in the guidance for all civil service and public sector employers.

From 1 July 2022, Special Leave with Pay (SLWP) will change for all cases. SLWP will apply for the duration of the stated self-isolation period only (whatever duration is in place at the time of the absence, currently 7 calendar days). From 1 July 2022 any periods of COVID-19 related illness which extend beyond the stated self-isolation period will be treated as ordinary sick leave. See circular <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/hr-circulars/hr-circular-18-2022-guidance-and-faqs-for-public-service-employers-during-covid-19.html>

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan**  
National HR