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Neale Richmond TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

07 June 2022

PQ 24807/22: To ask the Minister for Health if contact tracers are eligible for the Covid-19 bonus payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Richmond *neale*

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

Staff who meet the eligibility requirements of HSE HR Circular 12/2022 are entitled to payment of the pandemic Recognition Award. The eligibility criteria requires an employee to have worked in a Covid 19 exposed environment for a minimum of 4 weeks between 1/3/2020 and 30/6/2021 and to have been properly vaccinated in Cohorts 1 and 2 of the vaccination programme.

Only those who meet the criteria set out in the circular and FAQ are eligible for payment. Local management will assess staff to determine if they meet the above criteria and those that do will receive the bonus payment in line with the Circular.

However, in the main it is unlikely that Contact Tracers will meet the eligibility criteria, as they may not have worked for the minimum four-week period in a Covid 19 exposed environment.

Yours sincerely,


John Delamere,
National Employee Relations