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Mr. Sean Haughey, TD
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

22nd November 2022

Email: sean.haughey@oireachtas.ie

PQ 54391/22– *“To ask the Minister for Health when the staff at a facility (details supplied) will be awarded the pandemic recognition payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.” - Seán Haughey TD*

Details supplied: Northside Homecare Services CLG, Northside Enterprise Centre, Bunnratty Drive, Coolock, Dublin 17

Dear Deputy Haughey,

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

The HSE, with support from an external contractor, Kosi Corporation Ltd., is currently engaged in a process to implement the payment of the Pandemic Special Recognition Payment (PSRP) to the following cohorts of workers in non-HSE and non-Section 38 organisations:

1. Private Sector Nursing Homes and Hospices (for example: Private, Voluntary, Section 39)
2. Eligible staff working on-site in Section 39 long-term residential care facilities for people with disabilities
3. Agency roles working in the HSE
4. Health Care Support Assistants (home carers / home support workers) employed by Private, Voluntary, Section 39 agencies contracted to the HSE

A communication has issued to organisations of potentially eligible employees with guidance on how to access funding for this payment in respect of their employees. Eligible employees must have worked for at least 4 weeks between 1st March 2020 and 30th June 2021 in a frontline covid-exposed clinical environment which warranted their inclusion in either of Sequence Groups 1 or 2 for the vaccination programme. Eligible employees are only entitled to one PSRP.

The HSE intends to make payments around mid-November 2022 to employers who have returned their costed liability regarding their eligible employees which should permit them to pay those employees on or about the end November 2022. It is anticipated that not all eligible employees whether by reason of resignation, retirement, status query etc. will be identified and traced for the first tranche of payments. For those employees the HSE will be accepting further applications for funding from their employers or former employers which will be processed as an ongoing exercise until completion.

If, an employer, has any queries in relation to the PSRP guidelines, completion or submission of the claim pack they can contact psrp@kasicorp.com or 01 960 1700.

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

Yours sincerely,

Essene Cassidy
Head of Older Persons Services