

24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Deputy Holly Cairns  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 56062/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the number of candidates who expressed an interest in a CHO4 HSE principal specialist psychologist post in mental health (0.4 WTE specified purpose contract) with a focus on supporting the operational governance of trainees on the UCC doctor of clinical psychology programme, advertised on 23 February 2022; the reason that there has not been an interview process to date; the current status of the post; and if he will make a statement on the matter..”**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

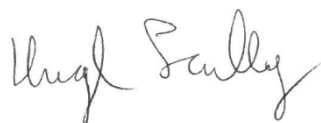
The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response.

The subject matter of this question is currently the subject of a formal process under the auspices of the State’s industrial relations machinery and as such, it would be contrary to fair procedures for a substantive response to be provided at this point. I can however advise that there was in fact an interview process during which four candidates were interviewed. None of those candidates were successful in that process.

The service is now seeking to increase the hours available for this role through service reconfiguration with a view to re-advertising the post in the coming months.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind regards,



**Mr. Hugh Scully**  
**A/General Manager**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**