



**Oifig Náisiúnta Um Ghairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisalaigh**

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Ms. Emer Higgins T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

23rd November, 2022

PQ 57286/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding that has been allocated to the establishment of the national psychology placement office as recommended in the HSE psychology report of January, 2021; when he expects the office to be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Emer Higgins.

Dear Deputy Higgins,

I wish to advise that funding is being allocated in the National Service Plan 2023 for Health and Social Care Professions Clinical Placement Supports. This funding will enable commencement of the development of a sustainable structure and supports for clinical practice placement for Health and Social Care Profession students in training and internationally trained Health and Social Care Professionals requiring clinical placement hours to enable registration in this jurisdiction.

This development also enables consideration of the best and most sustainable approach to addressing the key issues in the Report of the National Psychology Project Team in the context of ongoing service transformation and establishment of the Regional Health Authorities.

Implementation will be phased across the year with emphasis on increasing HSCP workforce supply and retention.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Reed
National Lead Health & Social Care Professions