



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care
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13th September 2022

Mr. John McGuinness TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 42118/22

To ask the Minister for Health the reason that the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Taskforce has not had a full-time coordinator for over two years; the action that is being taken to ensure that the full-time position is restored; if the person that was in the full-time position is still being paid by the HSE; if so, if he will resolve the issues that are preventing that person from returning to work; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.

The South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Taskforce has not had a full-time Co-Ordinator for over two years due to the substantive post holder of the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Taskforce Co-Ordinator being reassigned to an alternative role within Primary Care services since October 2019 and redeployed from March 2020 to current to assist with the Covid-19 Pandemic crisis. In the interim the post has been filled on a temporary basis.

I can confirm that the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Taskforce Co-Ordinator substantive post holder is an employee of the HSE. It is the intention of the HSE to ensure the full-time post of South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Taskforce Co-Ordinator is restored as a matter of priority.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Marie Lanigan
Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant National Director
South East Community Healthcare