



**Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

**National Director
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Catherine Murphy T.D.

14th September, 2022

PQ 43278/22 To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that are eligible for the pandemic bonus payment that have received same; the number of eligible persons that have not received the payment to date; the date on which all persons eligible will receive the payment; if his attention has been drawn to a delay in payment; and his plans to address this. -Catherine Murphy

Dear Deputy,

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

85,078 approved applications have been processed for payment as of Friday 9th of September 2022, reported to us centrally from HSE Payroll areas. The value of payments made to date is €82,273,800. This data excludes S38 agencies which are estimated to have paid approximately 37,589 staff to date thereby bringing the total number of employees paid to 122,667.

HR Circular 012/2022, HR Circular 014/2022, and the FAQ (all attached) clearly identifies the eligible employees and the processes required to implement the circular and process payments. Governance of this payment is delegated to the CHO Chief Officers and Hospital Group CEOs and an appeal process has been put in place to address any appeals. While HR Circulars are subject to local interpretation and application, all financial decision-making and the local implementation and interpretation are subject to internal financial controls and the Internal Audit process.

At this stage we would anticipate that there should not be a significant number of HSE directly employed staff or S38 agency staff with an established entitlement left to receive a payment, with the exception of those involved in the appeals process referenced above, which is open for applications until the end of September. There has been a gradual tapering off in the number of appeals being made week on week.

The payment of this award continues to receive priority across all Hospital Groups and Community Services.

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR