

## Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Acmhainní Daonna

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí, Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens', Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

## National Director Human Resources

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Colm Burke T.D.

28th September, 2022

PQ 44951/22 To ask the Minister for Health when all of the remaining groups that are eligible for the pandemic recognition payment but have not received it to date, will be able to apply for the payment; when they will receive payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke

Dear Deputy,

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

In response to your queries, we can confirm that 85,352 approved applications have been processed for payment as of Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2022, reported to us centrally from HSE Payroll areas. The value of payments made to date is €82,519,450. This data excludes S38 agencies which are estimated to have paid approximately 38,287 to date thereby bringing the total number of employees paid to 123,639.

HR Circular 012/2022, HR Circular 014/2022, and the attached FAQ 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, which is open for applications until the end of September. There has been a gradual tapering off in both the number of pandemic payments and 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.

Marie d' Sullwan

Yours sincerely,

Marie O'Sullivan National HR