



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

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Catherine Connolly T.D.

1<sup>st</sup> February, 2023

**PQ 1618/23** To ask the Minister for Health the number of pandemic recognition payments made to support staff employed by HSE Section 38 employers in each of the months April to December 2022 and to-date in January 2023; the number of payments outstanding in this category; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Catherine Connolly

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response.

From April 2022 – January 2023, approximately 52,686 payments have been made to Section 38 employees.

The estimate of Section 38 employees paid to date is based on vouched information received directly from the agency in response to a request by National HR to provide information on the total number of staff actually paid the pandemic bonus payment. This information does not provide a breakdown by staff category.

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.

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.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan**  
National HR