



**Stiúthóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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**National Director
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John McGuinness T.D.

15th February, 2023

PQ 4057/23 To ask the Minister for Health when the payments due to community care homes will be made; and the reason for the delay, given that a commitment was issued to have the payments made before Christmas 2022. - John McGuinness

Dear Deputy,

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

To advise the Deputy that the Pandemic Special Recognition Payment (PSRP) is being managed by the

1. HSE for HSE employees and S38 staff
2. by a contracted company (KOSI) for non HSE staff.

HSE & S38 staff: The processing of the payment continues to receive priority across all Hospital Groups and Community Health Organisations. That said, given the number of payments to date, there should not be a significant number of S38 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.

The steps taken to ensure payment is delivered are detailed in HSE HR Circular 12/2022 on 19th of April 2022 and HSE HR Circular 14/2022. An Appeals process was also established to address any appeals.

The Appeals process was established to provide a forum for employees who felt aggrieved by their exclusion to review the written submissions of individuals who were not approved for the pandemic recognition. This Appeal Board is independent of the HSE. The Appeals Board is making significant progress in reaching decisions on the appeals submitted.

The Board have committed to contacting each individual applicant and his/her manager to inform of their decision in relation to the appeals received, however, due to the high number of applicants and the time taken to consider each case, it has been decided not to release the outcome of the appeal process on an individual basis until such time as the review is complete for all applicants.

S39 and non HSE staff: The HSE has identified a list of potential employers of front-line workers who may be eligible for the Pandemic Special Recognition Payment (PSRP) in the following cohorts:

- (1) Private Sector long-term residential care facilities for older people (nursing homes) and hospices, whether they be Private, Voluntary, Section 39;
- (2) Eligible staff working on-site in Section 39 long-term residential care facilities for people with disabilities;
- (3) Agency/contract staff who worked in clinical settings for the HSE or within Cohorts 1, 2 and 4 (e.g. an nurse, doctor, cleaner, paramedic);
- (4) Health Care Support Assistants (also known as home help / home care / home support) contracted to the HSE.

The contracted company (KOSI) has directly engaged with agencies meeting the criteria and the process for Employers to claim for current and former employees eligible for PSRP has been outlined.



Payments have commenced to the employers who submitted applications that have passed the verification process.

Employers can be directed to the dedicated email address psrp@kasicorp.com and dedicated helpline 01 9601700 where members of the KOSI team will assist with any queries employers have in relation to current or past employees. It is important to note that the KOSI only deal directly with employers with the exception of an employee whose employer is no longer trading and current employer not in scope. This payment process is ongoing.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR