



**Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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Cathal Crowe T.D.

16th January, 2023

PQ 63611/22 To ask the Minister for Health when section 38 health workers who are due their pandemic bonus payment can expect to receive same. -Cathal Crowe

Dear Deputy,

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

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.

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.

Application to the Appeals Board are now closed.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan
National HR**