



**Stiúrtórá Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
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David Cullinane T.D.

12th June 2023

PQ 23638/23: To ask the Minister for Health the number of occupational health reviews which have taken place in relation to long-Covid or similar indication, in tabular form; the number of workers who sought leave on the basis of long-Covid; the number of workers asked to return despite claims of long-Covid; the number of workers granted leave, by length of leave in timebands; the number of workers who sought additional leave beyond initially sanctioned leave; and the number of workers granted long-term leave. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response. The HSE have been advised that the Minister will also be responding to the Deputy on this PQ and will advise of the COVID Special Leave with Pay scheme.

Please see below table which identifies the numbers of occupational health reviews which have taken place in relation to long-Covid or similar indications – split by year – 2022 and Jan to April 2023.

Total Number OH attendance	
Sep – Dec 2022	231
Jan – Apr 2023	146
Total	377

In order to address the Deputies questions we have banded the questions together to assess the level of absence of over one year at the end of March 2023. To advise the Deputy that based on reportings up to the end of March 2023 there are 136 staff reported as absent due to Covid for more than one year- the criteria used was ' staff directly employed by the HSE (not including S38s) on leave for in excess of one year up to end March 2023.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan
National HR**