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Willie O'Dea T.D.

13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (note release of this PQ response was delayed due to FORSA action )

**PQ 51659/23** To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider lifting the recently announced HSE recruitment freeze; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Willie O'Dea

Dear Deputy,

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

As you will be aware we are currently engaged in our National Service Planning Process, and therefore the detail you seek is currently forming the basis of the deliberative process as a core element. In determining the posts for inclusion in the 2024 recruitment profile it is necessary to review posts approved prior to this date alongside those posts for which funding has been received in 2024, to ensure that there is a comprehensive approach to the service developments profile in 2024. This work is currently underway, and must in the first instance be undertaken in conjunction with our services, whereby a key priority will their engagement and communication on this in the first instance.

As the Service Planning process is concluded we expect that this detail will then be available, and once communicated across our services will then be available.

Until such time as this process has concluded, we are therefore unable to provide this level of detail.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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Marie O'Sullivan National HR