



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

**National Director  
Human Resources**  
Health Service Executive,  
Dr Steevens' Hospital,  
Dublin 8, 08 W2A8

**www.hse.ie  
@hselive**  
t 01 6352319  
e nationalhr@hse.ie

Duncan Smith T.D.

14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**PQ 5083/24: To ask the Minister for Health if HSE members currently on a career break are not able to return to work due to the HSE recruitment embargo; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Duncan Smith**

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. 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 be 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 decision on career break returnees.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan  
National HR**