



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

21st February 2024

PQ 8623/24: To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the HSE recruitment embargo; if concerns of existing staff in HSE settings are being considered as part of negotiations on lifting it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Steven Mathews

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 we are not in a position to provide a timeframe re this matter.

In determining the posts for inclusion in the 2024 recruitment profile it is necessary to review posts approved prior to this date (commencement of the recruitment embargo) 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.

A set of proposals have been finalised between the HSE and staff representative bodies that include the parties agreeing to resume engagement to develop a specific Framework Agreement in relation to the recruitment of management and admin staff. This engagement is to resume as a matter of priority with a view to being concluded no later than 8 March 2024. It was also agreed that in the absence of mobility options for staff working in the HSE, the parties agree to engage with a view to developing a policy in relation to lateral movement. This will commence no later than 29 February 2024

Until such time as this process has concluded, we are therefore unable to comment further.

I trust this clarifies and is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie O'Sullivan
National HR**