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**10 June 2022**

**Deputy David Cullinane  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**PQ 29079/22: To ask the Minister for Health his plans to hire more dentists to work for the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

A number of CHOs have run recruitment initiatives and competitions for dentists, dental nurses and dental hygienists to fill vacancies, with panels created from the recruitment competitions.

Where service deficits are identified clinical teams are redirected to address those areas with the greatest needs.

Plans for service developments which will enable the service address delays in treatment caused by the curtailment of services during the Covid-19 pandemic and improve access to services for children in target classes are being developed as part of the 2023 Estimates process.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Green', written over a horizontal line.

**Joseph Green  
AND, National Oral Health Lead - Operations**