



Príomhoifigeach Cliniciúil  
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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Deputy Johnny Guirke  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**PQ52758/23- Deputy Johnny Guirke- To ask the Minister for Health to indicate the HSE grading system genetic counsellors fall under; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy Guirke,

Thank you for your representation.

Genetic Counsellors are aligned to Social Worker grades, under health and social care professional grades, HSE consolidated salary scales.

- Principal Genetic Counsellors are aligned to Principal Social Worker, grade code: 350Y
- Senior Genetic Counsellors are aligned to Senior Medical Social Worker, grade code: 3019
- Genetic Counsellors are aligned to Medical Social Worker, grade code: 3557
- Genomic Resource Associates are aligned to Clerical Officer (Grade V), grade code: 0566

The National Genetic and Genomics Office was established in 2023 under the governance of the Chief Clinical Officer. This office has begun the implementation of the national strategy for accelerating genetic and genomic medicine in Ireland. One of the key strategic areas of focus for this plan is building the genetics and genomics workforce for the future. As part of the implementation phase a robust workforce plan will be developed. This plan will support the recruitment, retention, education and career development of the current and future specialised workforce, including genetic counsellors. Work will also be progressed with relevant bodies to establish training pathways, accreditation training programmes and educational support for specialised staff.

I hope this provides you with some assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden  
General Manager, Office of the Chief Clinical Officer