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Deputy Paul Kehoe TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 15195/24

To ask the Minister for Health whether public health nurses in Wexford can apply for and be considered for job sharing; if not, the reasons this is not considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kehoe,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The Flexible Working Scheme is available to all staff throughout the HSE – applications are considered at local service level to minimise the impact of atypical working on service delivery.

The **HSE Guidelines on Terms and Conditions of Employment** provides additional information on the Flexible Working Scheme. The guidelines outline the following in relation to approval of applications (HSE Guidelines on Terms and Conditions of Employment 2017, Section 1: Leave, page 9).

“Approval of applications under the Flexible Working Scheme is subject to the overriding requirement that there should be no adverse impact on service delivery. When considering applications for working reduced hours, managers must assess whether the applicant can be facilitated having regard to patterns of work and an assessment of the capacity of the service to maintain required operational levels having regard to overall service requirements”.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Marie Lanigan
Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant Director
South East Community Healthcare