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29th May 2024

Deputy David Cullinane Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ15469/24 To ask the Minister for Health the spend by each independent hospital (voluntary) contracted by the Health Service Executive on agency staffing and private recruitment firms in each quarter of 2023-2024, inclusive, in tabular form; and he breakdown by recipient. - David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response and has been referred to me for a response.

I refer to the enclosed template, showing the total costs for quarters one to four in the year 2023 and guarter one 2024 as requested. This data is not collected centrally and therefore it is not validated. The data provided was sourced from each relevant hospital via the Regional Executive Officers with responsibility for Regional Health Areas. Please note because there are still currently numerous ledger systems in operation in the HSE differences in coding may arise.

The balance between high cost and high risk to service quality and safety is achieved through agency and overtime use to provide/maintain necessary services. Agency staffing is also used to allow for flexibility services designed to meet specific service user needs, and as required where there is a short-term critical service need.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Nessa Lynch

ours sincerefy

General Manager

Acute Operations