



Cúntóir Feidhmiúcháin Stiúrtóir Náisiúnta AD
Seirbhísí Roinnte AD, AD Náisiúnta

HSE, Áras Sláinte Chluainín,
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30th January 2024

Deputy Roisin Shortall
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Shortall

RE:PQ1366/24 To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No.150 of 15 November 2023, whether the Health Service Executive pensions section in Manorhamilton is now fully staffed and in a position to process all pension matters for retired HSE workers in a swift and timely manner; if not, if he will outline the reason why and the steps being taken to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Róisín Shortall

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, submitted by you to the Minister for Health. This matter has been referred to me for response on behalf of the HSE.

The ongoing constraints on HSE recruitment have and continue to be necessary to ensure that the HSE works within affordability limits.

Prior to the introduction of a recruitment pause, the adequate resourcing for the timely and accurate administration of HSE Pensions was acknowledged, with approval granted at that time to employ additional staffing. Recognising that not all of these staff had been appointed and that additional vacancies have arisen since the pause, I have approved the filling of 15 WTE to stabilise Pensions functions during this challenging time. It is expected that the new staff will be on boarded by the end of Q1 2024 and their training program will start immediately once hired.

Pensions functions continue to work diligently to drive forward a number of planned improvements, all the time working toward improved service delivery levels overall, in particular, payment timeframes for payment to members. Of particular positive impact in 2024 will be the expansion of the part payment of pension which is to be established as a standard operating practice across all HSE pension management areas. This has proven to be a very positive initiative, with part payment of lump sum and pension being made within an average of 15 days and 23 days of retirement respectively.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Eileen Winnington
Assistant National Director of HR