



**Stiúrtóir Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

**National Director
Human Resources**

Health Service Executive,
Dr Steevens' Hospital,
Dublin 8, 08 W2A8

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 6352319
e nationalhr@hse.ie

Marian Harkin T.D.

27th July 2024

PQ 33195/24: To ask the Minister for Health if, given the HSE recruitment ban has been lifted, he will confirm whether the many vacancies currently filled with agency staff will be advertised for already in place HSE staff who may wish to change posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Marian Harkin

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response. The HSE has now finalised its Pay and Numbers Strategy following detailed discussion over the last number of months with the Department of Health and the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform. There is now a new approved maximum Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) staff figure for the HSE and Section 38 Agencies of 129,753. (This excludes disability services provided by the HSE and its S 38 Organisations in that sector, pre-registration nursing and midwifery students, and 76 special assignment temporary posts). The HSE recruitment embargo therefore ended on Monday 15th July 2024.

Each of the six HSE Health Regions and each national service will be provided with its own specified number of WTEs and they can, within that approved number, replace, recruit and prioritise posts. This allocation process is underway. The WTE allocation will also be accompanied by a spend limit on agency and overtime as part of an overall pay spend limit. This provides greater flexibility for Health Regions and national services to respond to the needs of the population and prioritise posts appropriately.

I trust this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Catriona McConnellogue
National HR