



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,  
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
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**05 April 2024**

**Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**PQ 10788/24: To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the number of dentists or WTEs contracted to the public dental service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

The recruitment embargo is still in place at this point, and relates to the number of staff employed by the HSE. The embargo does not allow us currently to appoint any dental service staff not at consultant level.

While the embargo is in place, no additional staff will be appointed.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Anne O'Neill  
Assistant National Director, Oral Health**