9th December 2019

Ref: PAC32-I-1722

Ms Éilis Fallon,  
Committee Secretariat  
Committee of Public Accounts  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Ms Fallon,

The Secretary General Mr. McKeon has asked that I reply to your letter to him dated 5th December, seeking details regarding the number of people referred to JobPath. Please be aware that this information was contained in the Secretary General's letter to the Clerk to the Committee Mr. Lenihan which was sent on 2nd December. For ease of reference the additional information requested on JobPath referrals is attached as an appendix to this letter.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,

Niall Egan  
Assistant Secretary  
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection  
Goldsmith House  
Dublin 2
Appendix

Number of Referrals to JobPath

Set out below is the number of Personal Progression Plans (PPPs) agreed (engagements) per referral year as of 14/10/19.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PPPs Agreed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>65,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>74,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>60,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>36,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>244,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since 2015 there have been 244,219 referrals to JobPath, of these;

- 27,618 clients have started on their second engagement (PPP agreed) having previously completed with the service; and
- 1,330 have commenced a third engagement with the service; and
- A further 302 clients are reported as having have completed the service twice who have thus far not subsequently availed of the service.

A fourth referral to JobPath for anyone currently on the Live Register is unlikely but technically possible. There is a small cohort of people who started their third referral with JobPath prior to end of August 2019 who theoretically could have 12 months on programme and 4 months wait time. This cohort could potentially be referred before the end of current JobPath contracts in December 2020. The relevant number is small - under 750 jobseekers and the Department will continue to monitor this.

There are a very small number of jobseekers (8) for whom the Department has paid a fourth engagement fee following agreement of a PPP, who have had their previous engagement(s) with JobPath cancelled for various reasons.