



27 March 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly

Ref: PQ Ref 12173/19

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

I refer to your recent parliamentary question below which was sent to the HSE for reply.

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant doctor vacancies in hospitals nationally by hospital and speciality; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

HSE NDTP does not hold recruitment information however HBS Recruit have advised us of the data listed below on the Consultant posts that are in the recruitment process, either with HBS recruit or the Public Appointments Service. Please note that the HBS Recruit and the Public Appointments Service carry out recruitment on behalf of HSE hospitals only and this would not capture ongoing recruitment in the voluntary hospitals.

HBS Recruit have advised that the definition of a vacant post is a post where HBS has received a letter of approval from the Consultant Appointments Advisory Committee stating a new or replacement post is approved but a Contract of Employment has not been issued.

HBS has categorised the vacant posts as follows:

- 1) Pre-PAS: These are posts where HBS Recruit have received the LOA and the LOA is either being queried or the draft documents have been sent to the service for completion in order to initiate the campaign. This is currently 103 posts.
- 2) With PAS: These are posts that have been sent to the PAS for advertising and processed for interview, currently 160 posts.
- 3) Post PAS: These are posts where HBS Recruit has received the recommendation file from the PAS and has contacted the service with the details and is awaiting information from the service or the consultant and service are negotiating terms of employment e.g. start date. This is currently 17 posts.



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HBS have another 54 posts where they are awaiting instructions from the service on how to proceed.

A report from HBS Recruit providing details of recruitment is attached.

Prof Frank Murray

Prof Frank Murray
Director
National Doctors Training and Planning

Encl: Vacant post details