



16th December 2020

Deputy Grealish
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ Ref 42901/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of permanent consultant posts currently filled nationally; the number of permanent consultant posts which are currently not filled on a permanent basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Grealish

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 09.12.2020. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

The figures below relate to Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) approved consultant posts.

There are currently 3,205 permanent approved consultant posts filled, there are an additional 237 posts currently vacant. 488 of consultant posts are filled by non-permanent post holders i.e. fixed term contracts, specified purpose, agency and locum.

Permanent Consultant Posts Filled and Vacant:

Number of CAAC approved consultant posts	Filled	Unknown Status	Vacant	Total
Total	3205	4	237	3446

- Filled: The site has assigned a consultant to the post.
- Vacant: The site has verified on DIME that this is a vacant post. Recruitment for the post may be underway.
- Unknown status: The site has not yet assigned a consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.



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