



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Deputy Jennifer Carroll MacNeill TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ 4731 20:** *To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of hiring 1,000 additional consultants; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Carroll MacNeill,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

There are multiple disciplines within the field of medical consultancy. As no specific discipline was noted in your PQ the response is based on the hiring of an additional 1,000 Consultant Anaesthetists (Grade Code 1015).

The estimated annual cost of hiring an additional 1,000 Consultant Anaesthetists is €226.5M.

All estimates were provided by the National Pay Unit of the National Finance Division and are calculated using the mid points of the HSE pay scales. From this, an average annual fully burdened salary is calculated (i.e. including average premium and employers PRSI) for the Grade and position noted.

In addition to the pay costs above it is reasonable to assume that there are other non-pay costs associated with the recruitment process i.e. advertising, interview boards, possible travel expenses etc. which would also be incurred. There may also be ancillary support services associated with the new posts arising from the implied additional activity that would be undertaken as a result of the increased number of staff. Some of these services may be drawn from existing cost pools however there may be incremental costs incurred i.e. facilities costs, admin support, medical support teams etc. These have not been included in the estimates above.

The estimated annual pay costs of employing additional staff must be considered in this context.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

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