



28th October 2020

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ Ref 31420/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent hospital consultant posts in the public system at the end of 2018, 2019 and projected for the end of 2020 and 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane

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 23rd October 2020.

The figures relate only to HSE-approved consultant posts (i.e. consultant posts that have been recommended for approval by the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC)).

Date	No of consultant posts
31 December 2018	3170
31 December 2019	3329
23 October 2020	3436
31 December 2020 <i>(predicted number*)</i>	3460
31 December 2021 <i>(predicted number*)</i>	3605

* The predicted number of consultant posts is based on an average monthly increase of 12.1 posts per month (calculated using the consultant establishment over the preceding 22 months).

Yours sincerely

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director