

Mr David Cullinane TD
Sinn Féin
38/39 Stephen Street
Waterford City
e. david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

24th September 2020

Re. PQ 21494/20 and PQ 21495/20

Dear Deputy Cullinane

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

PQ 21494/20

To ask the Minister for Health the details of the most recent projected workforce planning requirements to meet demand in cancer services by specialty; and the number of these posts that are filled in tabular form.

In relation to positions for cancer services approved for 2020, filling of these positions has been authorised, and recruitment for the last quarter of 2020 has commenced at individual hospital / hospital group level.

A number of planning exercises are underway which contain posts for cancer services to meet projected demands going forward. These plans include those for the Winter Initiative, Pandemic Plan and Service Planning 2021, and are due to be finalised over the next two to three months. Determination of approval is awaited.

PQ 21495/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of unfilled posts in cancer services nationally; the number which have been vacant for over six months by hospital in tabular form.

This level of detail is not available to the NCCP. The national HR profile of the workforce at any time would not allow separate identification of cancer-service posts for most staff categories e.g. surgeons, nurses, HCAs, HSCPs. Positions are filled at individual hospital level. Filling of posts (newly approved or vacant due to retirement, movement, etc) is a continuous activity.

Yours sincerely



Professor Risteárd Ó Laoide
National Director
National Cancer Control Programme