



**National Doctors Training and Planning**  
Health Service Executive  
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**Oiliúint agus Pleanáil Náisiúnta na nDochtúirí**  
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8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Deputy Darren O'Rourke,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Ref: PQ Ref 27135/20**

*"To ask the Minister for Health the number of vacant consultant obstetrician posts within the public health service; the estimated full yearly cost of filling the vacancies in tabular form".*

Dear Deputy O'Rourke

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**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 there are currently 14 Obstetrician consultant posts recorded on DIME as vacant, as verified by the clinical sites.

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 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.

In regards to the yearly cost of filling the vacancies the Acute Hospital Division has provided the following information:

The inclusive salary cost of consultant obstetrician is currently €230,185pa. This cost includes employer PRSI and an average for premia.

The estimated salary cost to HSE of filling the 14 vacancies would amount to €3.223 million.

Yours sincerely

Leah O'Toole  
Assistant National Director  
National Doctors Training and Planning