

**22nd February 2020**

Deputy Sorca Clarke T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2  
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**Re: PQ 8148/21 – Vacancies, RHM**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the urgent steps he is taking to address the vacancy levels as of 1 February 2021 of over 75 whole-time equivalent staff at Mullingar Regional Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy Clarke,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on the level of vacancies in Regional Hospital Mullingar, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that Regional Hospital Mullingar is making every effort on a daily basis to ensure that safe levels of staffing are provided as much as possible. This is done with the intention of meeting clinical needs of patients and to provide a safe working environment for all staff. Although there are a number of vacancies currently, all posts are either covered by internal staff, agency staff and the hospital is actively recruiting at this time. Many of the positions are in the process of being filled after a successful campaign has been carried out.

Regional Hospital Mullingar and the Ireland East Hospital Group are working together to fill these vacancies as soon as possible.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher  
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery