

15th March 2020

Deputy Sorca Clarke T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 E: sorca.clarke@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 13863/21 – Number of the confirmed 75.5% vacant positions, Regional Hospital Mullingar

"To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 670 of 20 January 2021, the number of the confirmed 75.5% vacant positions at Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar; the number of these positions per department that are currently advertised for recruitment; and the number of these positions that are currently filled by agency staff."

Dear Deputy Clarke,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on 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 our patients and provides 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

