



15th September 2021

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 43110/21 and REPDR/21/05928

To ask the Minister for Health the number of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee regularised approved consultant posts; the number of posts registered on the Doctors Integrated Management E-System as vacant; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

And

To ask the number of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee regularised approved consultant posts; the number of posts registered on the DIME system as vacant.

Dear Deputy Cullinane

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 04 May 2021. The cyber-attack in May 2021 has resulted in a significant data backlog and it is not yet possible to provide data after May 2021.

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

Table 1: Status of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) approved consultant posts as of 04 May 2021

Filled	3258
Unknown status	24
Vacant	331
Total number of CAAC approved consultant posts	3613



National Doctors Training and Planning
Health Service Executive
Sancton Wood Building, Heuston South Quarter
St John's Road West, Dublin 8

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Definition of Status

- **Filled** - The clinical site has verified that a Consultant currently occupies this post
- **Vacant** - The clinical site has verified on DIME that this is a vacant post, however, it should be noted that recruitment for the post may be underway and in some cases appointments may have already been made with a prospective start date
- **Unknown** - The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant

It should be noted that 2021 has seen a surge in the number of posts being approved by the CAAC, and this has resulted in a higher number of vacancies. There is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post to an appointee commencing employment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah O'Toole".

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director