



South East Community
Healthcare Area | Lacken |
Dublin Road | Kilkenny |
R95 NV08

Tel: 056 7784100

20th December 2022

Ms Verona Murphy T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

PQ 61247/22

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the current recruitment and retention crisis of frontline specialist medical personnel across all healthcare services in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

We have understood your parliamentary question references consultant posts-however, if this is not the case, please revert with further detail and we will endeavour follow up as a priority.

The Public Appointment Service (PAS) recruit on behalf of the HSE for all permanent consultant posts. It is the case that there are a number of campaigns currently with PAS. There are also a number of consultant posts filled on a temporary / agency basis. Where posts become vacant and are approved for permanent filling, these posts are covered on a temporary basis by agency to ensure continuity of services.

Despite ongoing efforts, recruiting and retaining Consultant staff in Ireland is challenging. There are particular issues both nationally and internationally with the recruitment of certain specialities including Mental Health and Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

I trust this clarifies, however should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

P.P. 

Catherine Neary
Head of Service - Human Resources
South East Community Healthcare