



11 March 2022

Deputy Pauline Tully
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Tully

RE: PQ 10790/22 To ask the Minister for Health the number and type of therapist posts that are currently advertised; the average length of time to fill therapy posts by therapy discipline; the number of therapy posts that have went unfilled by therapy discipline; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pauline Tully

Many thanks for your query in regard to the above.

The HSE recruits the majority of therapy posts through large national campaign processes. These are generally advertised on an annual basis with a view to harnessing the graduates from Irish colleges. These processes produce pools of suitably qualified candidates and these candidates are offered posts as they arise. However, these pools are supplemented by bespoke processes if posts are difficult to fill.

The average length of time to fill a staff grade therapy posts from the point of offer of employment is circa 9 weeks.

Please see below a breakdown of NRS therapy grade posts that are in progress, currently unfilled and posts that have been filled from 2019 to date.

	Posts in progress with NRS	Current Unfilled Posts	Posts Filled 2019 to Date
Dietitian	11	11	89
Dietitian, Senior	232	25	109
Occupational Therapist	80	82	416
Occupational Therapist, Senior	144	0	218
Physiotherapist	71	119	406
Physiotherapist, Senior	134	0	341
Speech & Language Therapist	60	45	387
Speech & Language Therapist, Senior	101	5	170
Grand Total	833	287	2136

Over the next few weeks the HSE will be launching campaigns to attract all of the graduates for 2022. This pool will be supplemented with recruitment from overseas.



If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Eithne Fox'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eithne Fox
Assistant National Director of HR