



15<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 35596/22

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant posts which are fully-funded but not filled on a permanent basis by consultant type, broken down by vacant post or post filled by agency staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

#### National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 03 May 2022. 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: Total number of CAAC Approved Posts as at 03.05.2022**

Filled	Unknown Status	Vacant	Vacant Posts with a future start date	Newly created service posts under recruitment	Total
3454	6	124	23	326	3933

**Table 2: Total Number of CAAC Approved consultant posts filled by tenure as at 03.05.2022**

Medical Discipline	Permanent	Temp / Locum	Agency	Total
Medicine	768	94	10	872
Surgery	491	58	4	553
Anaesthesiology	366	36	2	404
Psychiatry	361	61	29	451
Radiology	287	21	5	313
Pathology	274	21	2	297
Paediatrics	203	16	6	225
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	165	12	2	179
Emergency Medicine	102	21	1	124
Intensive Care Medicine	34	2		36
<b>Total</b>	<b>3051</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>3454</b>

## Definitions

**Approved:** The post has been approved through the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) process.

**Filled:** The clinical site has verified that a Consultant currently occupies this post.

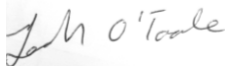
**Vacant:** Recruitment for the post may be underway but the clinical site has verified on DIME that this is currently a vacant post. An appointment may have been made to a number of these vacancies with a prospective start date. It should be noted that there is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post through CAAC to the commencement of the recruitment process and ultimately the recruitment of a Consultant to a post.

The vacancy figure includes a combination of posts that have previously been filled but have become vacant and posts that have never been filled.

**Unknown:** The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.

**Newly created service posts under recruitment:** Newly approved CAAC posts that are currently undergoing recruitment and are at various stages of the process. These posts have never been filled before.

Yours sincerely,



Leah O'Toole  
Assistant National Director