



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



Chief Operations Officer,  
Saolta University Health Care Group,  
Old Nurses Home,  
University Hospital,  
Newcastle Road.  
Galway.  
Tel: 091 893800

Alan Dillon T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

8<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**PQ37638/22: To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will provide the reason that funding was approved for Sligo University Hospital and Letterkenny University Hospital for additional consultant anaesthesiology posts; and the reason that it is acceptable for Mayo University Hospital to become an outlier in a group (details supplied) with the delay in approval of a business case to similar posts to address clinical deficiencies and comply with national standards**

Dear Deputy Dillon,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question/Public Representation which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Mayo University Hospital does not currently have the 2 plus 2 on call structure as recommended for a Model 3 hospital with an onsite Obstetric unit. In order to have this in place, there is a requirement for 4 extra Consultants and 4 extra Registrars. The site currently has 8 permanent Consultants and would require approval for a further 4 Consultants to achieve the recommended on call rota cover. The site has 7 Registrars and 7 SHOs. There is a requirement for an increase of 1 WTE for both these grades to have a secure rota in place with 2 NCHDs working alongside the 2 Consultants.

The hospital secured funding for the 8<sup>th</sup> Consultant post in 2021 via the National Women & Infants Programme. The requirement for the additional 4 consultant posts was submitted to the Saolta Medical HR Forum in February 2022. This requirement was supported in principle by Saolta in April 2022, however, it is dependent on a funding stream which is not currently in place. Saolta will be advocating for funding through the estimates process with the National Clinical Programme and Acute Hospitals.

Please note that this is an issue in most Model 3 hospitals across the country.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

**Yours sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Cosgrove', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Ann Cosgrove,  
Chief Operations Officer,  
Saolta University Health Care Group**