

Deputy Holly Cairns
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

06th December 2022

PQ Number: 55434/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number and types of roles currently vacant in Cork Maternity University Hospital. -Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Staffing deficits are a significant issue and concern for the Directorate at Cork University Maternity Hospital. We make every effort to actively recruit staff. We have deficits in Consultants, NCHDs, Midwifery, Nursing, Administration, Health and Social Care Professionals and HealthCare Assistants.

Consultants:

We currently have four Consultant vacant posts which are broken down as follows:

- Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist with a special interest in Gynaecology Oncology – this post should be progressing for advertising shortly
- Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist with a special interest in Uro-Gynaecology/Mesh. This post failed to recruit a suitable candidate and is currently submitted for re-advertising
- Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist with a special interest in Reproductive Medicine. This post failed to recruit suitable a candidate and is currently submitted for re-advertising
- Associate Professor Neonatology – Interviews have taken place for this post

NCHDs

- We have some small deficits in this cohort of staff due to inability to recruit into all posts

Midwifery & Nursing:

From the total Staffing allocation of Nursing & Midwifery we are running at an overall deficit of almost 11%, broken down as follows:

- Promotional roles across all Maternity, Gynae/Colposcopy and Neonatal Services - number of vacant WTE= 4%
- Vacant Midwives and Nurses WTE= 3.3%
- Vacant posts due to various types of Leave = 3.2%

Clerical/Administration:

- There are currently four vacant posts in Administration staffing which we are actively in the process of recruiting

Health and Social Care Professionals:

The following posts are vacant in HSCP staffing

- Dietetic Post for Gestational Diabetes CUMH, Senior Grade 1 WTE
- Dietetic Post for NNU CUMH Senior Grade 1 WTE
- Physiotherapy post for NNU CUMH, Clinical Spec Post 1 WTE
- Medical Social Work 1.6 WTE

Yours sincerely,
John R. Higgins



***Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University College Cork
Clinical Director Ireland South Women & Infants Directorate
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