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03 October 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ Number: 44490/22

Question: *To ask the Minister for Health the number of permanent approved consultant positions that are not filled on a permanent basis and are either vacant or filled on a temporary, agency or other basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Deputy David Cullinane*

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

Regarding the above Parliamentary Question, please see response below:

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 26 September 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.

There are 413 Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) posts filled by Temporary/Agency/Locum.

Excluding newly approved service posts which are at varying stages of recruitment and posts which have a future assigned start date, there are 176 vacant consultant posts. This figure includes posts that have previously been filled but have become vacant. Recruitment for the vacancies may be underway but the clinical site has verified on DIME that this is currently a vacant post.

Yours sincerely,

Leah O'Toole

Assistant National Director