



28th February 2023

Deputy, Dail Eireann Kildare Street Dublin 2

Re: PQ 6681. To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time lactation consultants that were appointed in 2022 in CHOs 3 and 5 in 2022; and if any appointments of these consultants in either of these CHOs are scheduled.

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my department for direct response to you on same. There are a total of 50.8 infant feeding/lactation WTEs currently in post, comprised of 35 in maternity services and 15.8 WTEs in community services around Ireland. There are a further 7 in recruitment.

CHO 3

One Assistant Dr of Public Health Nursing in Lactation was appointed in CHO3 during 2022. Along with this post, there is a Public Health Nurse in lactation (1 WTE) in place in Co. Clare. There is also a Public Health Nurse lactation post (1 WTE) in Nth. Tipperary which is vacant since August 2022 due to promotion but following interview, it is hoped it will be filled in due course.

CHO 5

1.5 WTE in recruitment in Carlow/Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford. Interviews held and candidates awaiting start dates on Waterford, Wexford and Carlow/Kilkenny.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Kind regards,

Anne Pardy
Chair of National Breastfeeding Implementation Group
Programme Manager National Healthy Childhood Programme

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