



Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
HSE Offices, Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone +353 56 7784100

11th July 2023

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 34178/23

To ask the Minister for Health the status of the current vacant full-time orthodontic consultant post in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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PQ 34179/23

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of current vacancies within the HSE orthodontic services in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which were submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following response outlines the current position.

The orthodontic service in South East Community Healthcare (SECH) is a regional service across Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford. There are no vacancies specific to Co. Wexford.

There is 1 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Consultant and 2.6 WTE Specialists for the whole of SECH although there is 1 WTE vacant Consultant post and 2.6 vacant Specialist posts across the region. There is currently 0.6 WTE Specialist working in Kilkenny, 0.6 WTE Specialist in Wexford, 0.6 WTE Specialist in Clonmel and 0.8 WTE Specialist in Waterford. When additional staff are recruited they can opt to work in any of the 4 clinics.

There is currently 0.4 WTE temporary clerical cover for SECH. There are also 1.2 WTE vacant Dental Nurse posts which are currently in the process of being filled from the panel.

There have been no applicants for the vacant Specialist/Consultant posts. The Consultant post has been vacant for a year and the HSE have re-advertised same on several occasions. The Specialist posts are being advertised again since a retirement occurred in April and no applicants applied at that time.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna-Marie Lanigan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anna Marie Lanigan

**Head of Service-Primary Care/Assistant National Director
South East Community Healthcare**