



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géarobríochtaí

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Deputy Denis Naughten
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

29th June 2023

PQ 28989/23 - To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 307 of 15 September 2022, the number of full-time posts allocated to post-acute and long-Covid clinics, by clinic and speciality; if the position has been filled; if an offer has been made; if a recruitment competition is ongoing; if the HSE recruitment process has commenced in view of the emerging evidence on long-Covid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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.

The HSE recognises the need to provide follow up support and care for patients experiencing prolonged signs and symptoms of Covid-19. In response to this it has developed an Interim Model Of Care (MoC) for Long Covid which was finalised in September 2021.

The aim of the MoC is to provide a national approach to the provision of services and supports for patients experiencing prolonged symptoms of Covid-19. It set out a framework for the provision of these services and supports spanning General Practice, Community Services, Acute Hospitals and Mental Health Services. The resultant Interim MoC recommended the development of six Long COVID clinics, eight Post-Acute COVID clinics and one tertiary referral neurocognitive clinic for those with complex neuro-cognitive/neuropsychological symptoms.

The MoC identified the resources and personnel required for each of these clinics and the HSE worked closely with clinicians and senior management at each site to map existing resources against what was outlined within the Model. This identified gaps within existing service provision and informed what additional resources were required. It also ensured that the resources allocated were reflective of what was required within a local context.

For the majority of posts Primary Notification Numbers were provided to each of the sites during March and April 2022 so that they could proceed with filling the posts.



Recruitment is ongoing and the HSE is continuing to engage with Strategic Workforce and Planning and with each of the individual sites to closely monitor progress.

The Excel file included with this PQ response provides a full breakdown of posts and their recruitment status at the time of replying.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Dunne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Dunne
General Manager
Acute Operations