

CC/VAW/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

17th July 2023

Mr Violet-Anne Wynne TD,
Dàil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 30404/23 PQ 30405/23

To ask the Minister for Health the vacancies that currently need to be filled in a hospital (details supplied), in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Violet-Anne Wynne

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Dear Deputy Wynne,

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

As requested, please see below the current number of vacant posts at University Hospital Limerick and Ennis Hospital. Please note, a vacancy is defined as an approved position that is not occupied on either a temporary or permanent basis. These posts are active for recruitment with the intention of filling them through the recruitment process.

Vacant Posts		
Staff Category	University Hospital Limerick	Ennis Hospital
Health and Social Care Professionals	125	13
General Support	27	6.5
Management/Admin	70	5
Nursing	198.49	3.0
Patient and Client Care	19.40	0.50
Medical / Dental	31	0
Total	470.8	28

UL Hospitals Group operates under the auspices of the national HSE Performance & Accountability Framework where any posts for recruitment progression must advance through our local Employment Control Committee for approval and similarly any senior posts, must be approved at a national level.

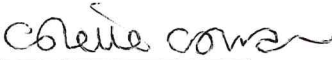
Increases in WTEs over the last few years have been largely concentrated on new bed capacity development and sanctioned funding initiatives under the HSE National Service Plan & Winter Service Plan.

Similar to any organisation, a significant part of vacancies arise due to shorter term leave types such as sick leave, maternity leave etc. and also in the form of natural attrition such as resignation and retirement. In addition, it should be noted that as travel opportunities have opened up post-pandemic, some staff have chosen to avail of same.

Presently, the labour market is very competitive, particularly in the area of skilled medical personnel. This challenge is not unique to the HSE but rather is being felt on an international scale. Nonetheless, ULHG is constantly recruiting for new development posts and filling any deficits which may have arisen having pioneered several key initiatives to attract and retain staff and is continually committed to having a well-resourced workforce to support the patient needs of the Mid-West.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Prof Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group