



Príomhoifigeach Daoine

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Marie Sherlock, TD

09 July 2025

PQ 31448/25 (Health) – To ask the Minister for Health the quantitative data the HSE board has submitted to demonstrate the effective phasing out of private practice by consultants who switched to the new POCC contract, as requested in the letter of determination that issued in November 2024. - Marie Sherlock.

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent Parliamentary Question which was sent to the HSE for response.

The HSE's National Service Plan 2025 provides that the HSE will implement '*a comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework on the implementation and the value being delivered by the POCC across all specialisms and sites....*'

The HSE uses an electronic system referred to as DIME - Doctor's Integrated Management E-system to track the implementation of POCC. DIME is a quadripartite system which encompasses National Doctors Training & Planning (NDTP), the Irish Medical Council, the Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies and Clinical Sites. It consists of eight separate modules and continues to be upgraded and developed. It contains the Consultant Post Matching Module which records details of all Consultant posts and their contract types, and allows for more accurate reporting at local and national level and helps to inform workforce planning decisions. Further details are available [here](#). There are currently 2,986 Consultants on POCC, of which 2119 are existing Consultants who transitioned to POCC and 867 are new entrants.

At present work is ongoing on DIME to develop a module which will collect data on the work plans and schedules of Consultants on POCC. This will show the extent to which Senior Clinical Decision Makes are rostered for extended working days/week in line with the terms of the contract. It is anticipated that by quarter four 2025 the module will be at the "go live" point.

In relation to the wind-down of on-site private practice for Consultants who transitioned to POCC before the 32/12/2023, the Contract provides as follows:

- (a) *The volume of on-site private practice in which the Employee is entitled to engage by the end of 2024 may not exceed 10% of the Employee's workload in any of their clinical activities, including in-patient, day-patient and out-patient.*
- (b) *The volume of on-site private practice in which the Employee is entitled to engage by the end of June 2025 may not exceed 5% of the Employee's workload in any of their clinical activities, including in-patient, day-patient and out-patient.*
- (c) *The Employee must cease all on-site private practice by the end of 2025.*
- (d) *Throughout the transitional period the Employee will take appropriate steps to ensure an orderly wind-down of such of their on-site private practice.*

In line with the timeframes provided in POCC, the HSE will monitor this aspect of the Contract with the Regions going forward.

I trust this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Mairéad Ryan
National HR