



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

FFS an Iarthair agus an Iarthuaiscirt,
Bloc B, Campas Ospidéal Páirc Mheirlinne,
Gaillimh, H91 N973

Fón: +353 (0) 91 775404
| @hsewestnorthwest.ie | www.hse.ie

HSE West and North West,
Block B, Merlin Park Hospital Campus,
Galway, H91 N973

Tel: +353 (0) 91 775404
| [@hsewestnorthwest](https://twitter.com/hsewestnorthwest) | www.hse.ie

25th September, 2025.

Deputy Martin Daly,
Leinster House,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.

RE: PQ 44768/25 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of Consultant Obstetricians which have been appointed specifically to Portiuncula University Hospital's maternity unit since the publication of the 2018 Walker report and whether this aligns with the recommended levels for safe and sustainable maternity care.

Dear Deputy Daly,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

In 2022, the National Women's and Infants Health Programme (NWIHP) reviewed funding for small maternity units in Ireland and standardised the Consultant Obstetrician WTE to 6.

Portiuncula University Hospital (PUH) has approval for 6 whole time equivalent (WTE) Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologists. This represents an increase from 5 in 2022, and an increase from 3 at the time of the Walker Report (2014). Of these appointments, one WTE is a joint appointment between PUH and GUH, with 2 people spending 50% time each on both sites. Currently 5.5 WTE Consultant Obstetrician positions are permanently filled. The recently vacated 0.5 WTE is currently in the recruitment process.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Cosgrove,
Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon,
HSE West and North West.