



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,  
 Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
 An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach  
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10 May 2024

Deputy Alan Kelly  
 Dáil Eireann  
 Leinster House  
 Kildare Street  
 Dublin 2

**PQ 16394/24: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost to recruit two additional WTE orthodontics specialists, two additional senior dental hygienists and two additional senior dental surgeons for the public dental services.**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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

The below table outlines the estimated full year cost of recruiting two additional orthodontic specialists, two senior dental hygienists and two senior dental surgeons. Please note 30% of WTE Cost is included to cover estimated operational costs to reflect the specialist nature, high patient turnover and consumables associated with a Dental and Orthodontic Service.

**Table 1: WTE Cost (at October 2023)**

Grade Code Description	WTE Cost €	Er PRSI @ 11.05% €	Full Year Cost of WTEs €
Specialist Orthodontist	165,741	18,314	<b>184,055</b>
Senior Dental Hygienist	58,737	6,490	<b>65,227</b>
Senior Dental Surgeon	93,156	10,294	<b>103,450</b>
			<b>352,732 (x2)</b>
			<b>705,464</b>

**Table 2: Total Cost**

<b>WTE Cost (WTE Table 1)</b>	€705,464
<b>30% Operational associated costs</b>	€211,639
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>€917,103</b>



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Where no existing Dental Nurse is available to work with each additional clinician, the cost of recruiting a Dental Nurse (€40,283 full year cost) must also be factored in.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Anne O'Neill".

**Anne O'Neill**

**Assistant National Director, Oral Health**