



Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
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15th November 2024

Deputy Cathal Crowe TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44151 24: *To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost to the Exchequer of increasing the number of consultants in emergency medicine by a further 50%.*

Dear Deputy Crowe,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

In order to respond to your request, an estimation of costs was provided by the National Pay Unit of the National Finance Division. The estimated annual additional full-year cost to the Exchequer of increasing the number of consultants in emergency medicine by a further 50% is in the region of approximately €30.2m, being 93 WTE's. This estimate was calculated using the midpoints of the October 2024 HSE pay scales and is based on the December 2023 HR staff census. The costs are full year pay only estimates including average allowances, OT and other premia associated with the grade codes. Also included is ER PRSI at 11.05%. No other ancillary costs outside of those noted are considered.

In addition to the pay costs above it is reasonable to expect that there are other non-pay costs associated with the recruitment process i.e. advertising, interview boards, possible travel expenses etc. Additionally it is reasonable to assume that there may be ancillary support services associated with the new posts arising from the implied additional activity that would be undertaken as a result of the increased number of staff. Some of these services may be drawn from existing cost pools however there may be incremental costs incurred i.e. facilities costs, admin support, medical support teams etc. These have not been included in the estimates above.

The estimated annual pay costs of employing additional staff must be considered in this context.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at sarah.anderson1@hse.ie or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Anderson



Sarah Anderson

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