



**Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

**National Director
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Mr. Marc Mc Sharry

October 3, 2024

PQ 36112/24 (Health) - To ask the Minister for Health the way he can reconcile the approval and sanction of the appointment of additional hospital consultants without parallel sanction of additional junior doctors, advance nurse practitioners, nurses and administrative back up; if he will strategically link just sanctions together in the interests of best practice; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Marc MacSharry

Dear Deputy,

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

Under the Health Act 2004, the HSE has specific statutory functions in relation to Consultants employed in the public health service. Section 57 of the Health Act, 2004 provides that the HSE must regulate the number and type of appointments of Consultant medical staff in the public health service in Ireland including the HSE, voluntary hospitals and other agencies whether additional, replacement, temporary or locum and irrespective of the extent of the commitment involved or source of funding of the appointment.

The HSE's Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) was set up to provide independent and objective advice to the HSE on applications for medical Consultants and qualifications for Consultant posts as it pertains to the HSE's statutory functions. Since its inception, the CAAC in providing advice to the HSE, has been an integral part in the development of consultant led services and in supporting the HSE in its statutory functions with regard to consultant posts.

In respect of any application made to CAAC for a new Consultant post, a comprehensive business cases is required from the relevant service in support of its application. These business cases should address funding and resourcing requirements of the new Consultant post.

I trust this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Catriona McConnellogue
National HR