

**Private & Confidential**

**Date: 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**Deputy Pa Daly, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St, Dublin 2**

**PQ Number: 36205/22**

**Dear Deputy Daly,**

The Health Service Executive (HSE) – South (Cork & Kerry) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this office for response.

**PQ Question:** To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a paediatric oncology ward in University Hospital Kerry to facilitate a more coordinated level of care for paediatric cancer patients, including services such as haematology, port and wound dressings, administration of chemotherapy and other care services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pa Daly.

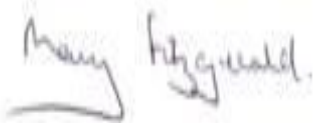
With regard to children in Kerry who currently require chemotherapy, there is a long standing and very successful shared care arrangement in place between UHK and Crumlin Paediatrics Oncology service .

Paediatric Oncology is a very specialised area and currently there are no plans for this service to be provided in UHK . There are excellent Clinical relationships in place between both sites which allows for children to avail of elements of care to be administered in UHK and the more specialised treatments in Crumlin. Best practice suggest that specialist Oncology care is best administered in dedicated centres of excellence.

Children who reside in Kerry and are undergoing chemotherapy do attend the Paediatric Ward in UHK for blood work, transfusions, port a cath care and wound dressings.

I trust this response is to your satisfaction; should you have any further queries however, please do not hesitate to contact me

**Yours sincerely,**



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**Mary Fitzgerald  
A/Operations Manager  
University Hospital Kerry**