



19th December, 2023

Deputy Brendan Smith, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 55866/23

To ask the Minister for Health the proposals, if any, there are to extend dermatology services throughout the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Dermatology on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Dermatology is committed to providing equity of access geographically to dermatological care for all patients, as articulated in its model of care, entitled **National Clinical Programme for Dermatology – a Model of Care for Ireland (approval date 2020)**¹. Services are delivered on a Hub (Dermatology Departments) and Spoke (Peripheral Clinics) Model (excluding CHI).

As outlined in the NCP for Dermatology's Model of Care¹, over the last ten years, "*... there have been significant improvements in expanding service provision in all dermatology departments, particularly regional and peripheral centres in a hub and spoke model...*" (pp. 35).

Section 4: Review of Dermatology Services (pp. 32-53) of **National Clinical Programme for Dermatology – a Model of Care for Ireland**¹ provides details of dermatology services nationally. See Appendix 1 overleaf for details of dermatology service locations, extracted from page 34 of **National Clinical Programme for Dermatology – a Model of Care for Ireland**¹.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager

Reference:

1. **National Clinical Programme for Dermatology – a Model of Care for Ireland. Available at:** <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/dermatology/resources/national-clinical-programme-for-dermatology-a-model-of-care-for-ireland.pdf>

Appendix 1: Dermatology Service Locations

Table 4.1 below, extracted from page 34 of: *National Clinical Programme for Dermatology – a Model of Care for Ireland*

Hospital Group	Dermatology Departments (Hub)	Peripheral Clinics (Spoke)
Ireland East	St. Vincent's Hospital Group	St. Michael's Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny
	Mater University Hospital	Midlands Regional Hospital Mullingar
Dublin Midlands	Tallaght University Hospital	Naas General Hospital
	St. James's Hospital	Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise
RCSI	Beaumont Hospital	Connolly Hospital
	Our Lady of Lourdes, Drogheda	Cavan/Monaghan Hospital
University of Limerick	University Hospital Limerick	Ennis Hospital Nenagh Hospital
South/South West	South Infirmary Victoria Hospital	Kerry University Hospital, Cork University Hospital, Bantry Hospital
	Waterford University Hospital	South Tipperary Hospital Clonmel
Saolta	Galway University Hospital	Portiuncula Hospital Ballinasloe Mayo University Hospital
	Sligo University Hospital	Letterkenny University Hospital
Child Health Ireland	CHI at Crumlin CHI at Tallaght CHI at Temple Street	