

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

3 April 2024

Ref: PQ 7426/24

Deputy Denis Naughten Dáil Eireann Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Naughten

I refer to your below parliamentary question which has been forwarded to me for attention.

PQ 7426/24 – To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the future location of the main laboratory for genetic testing in Ireland which is currently housed at CHI Crumlin; the reason this is not being accommodated in the new Children's Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) can advise that the plans for the future location of the main laboratory for genetic testing in Ireland remains with the HSE.

At the time of the design of the new children's hospital a national solution was proposed for genetics. In 2022 a feasibility study showed that the required space was not available in the new children's hospital.

The CHI clinical genetics laboratory currently located at CHI at Crumlin will remain operational on the CHI at Crumlin site for a period of time.

Yours sincerely

PROF. SEAN WALSH

CLINICAL DIRECTOR/ SITE LEAD

Sean Wald

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Our **Mission** is to: Promote and provide child-centred, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We will do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

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