

21<sup>st</sup> February 2024

Mr Marc O' Cathasaigh TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 8665 - To ask the Minister for Health if contingency plans are in place for staffing of the diabetes unit in University Hospital Waterford, as a model 4 hospital, to ensure adequate cover in the event of staff illness or leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy O' Cathasaigh

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I can advise that in the event of staff illness or leave within the Diabetes Unit at University Hospital Waterford, cover arrangements are in place where feasible. A voicemail service is an additional source of information for patients who may need access to care via GP/Emergency Department.

I trust the above is satisfactory but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Ben O' Sullivan  
General Manager  
University Hospital Waterford  
Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital