MERCY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CORK CLG

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From the Chief Executive Officer
Anne Coyle

PQ 2893/24

20th March 2024

Deputy Thomas Gould, T. D. (via HSE PQ/REPDR system)

Re: To ask the Minister for Health whether paediatric Haematology and Oncology units will be moved from the Mercy University hospital to CUH; when this will happen; and the engagement with parents to support them in this move.

Dear Deputy Gould,

I refer to your PQ in respect of the above and apologise for the delayed response.

As you are aware, the South/South West Hospital Group (SSWHG) is working with the Mercy University Hospital (MUH) and Cork University Hospital (CUH) to plan the transfer and consolidation of paediatric services from MUH to CUH. The key purpose of this project is to provide a centralised and improved model of care for children in Cork.

The new Paediatric Department development located at CUH, combining both MUH and CUH paediatric departments, will cater for a centralised paediatric service within one location in Cork and in preparation for this transition an extended paediatric clinical governance structure is now led by a Clinical Director for the combined city services. This new development will deliver high quality care for children and will provide much needed paediatric care consistent with Clinical Care Pathways and the Model of Care.

The transfer of MUH paediatric service to CUH will occur in June 2024. Until the date of transfer has been confirmed, paediatric services will continue at the Mercy University Hospital (MUH). Following the service transfer, there will be an increase in capacity for Haematology/ Oncology children at CUH, there will be four single rooms' en-suite with air handling units and a treatment room. Haematology/oncology service patients will continue to have direct ward access. The POONs outreach will be delivered from CUH.

I trust this answers your query and please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the CEO should you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Coyle Chief Executive Officer

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