

MERCY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CORK CLG

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From the Chief Executive Officer

Anne Coyle



Your Ref

Our Ref:

PQ 2905/24

20th March 2024

Deputy Pat Buckley, T. D.
(via HSE PQ/REPDR system)

Re: To ask the Minister for Health to outline the plans to close the paediatric unit in Mercy University Hospital which would leave Cork University Hospital as the only hospital in the area which covers care for under 16 year-olds; and to provide a rationale for this change

Dear Deputy Buckley,

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

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.

Until the date of transfer has been confirmed, paediatric services will continue at the Mercy University Hospital (MUH). However, the MUH Emergency Dept (ED) will close to children following the service transfer. The CUH Paediatric Emergency Department will be the sole ED for children. This is a new purpose-built Children's ED, separate from the main adult ED, run by specialist paediatric emergency medicine doctors and nurses.

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

Registered in Ireland No.: 353064 **Registered Office:** Mercy University Hospital, Grenville Place, Cork T12 WE28

Directors: Mr Neil O'Carroll (Chair), Ms Ann Doherty, Mr Eoghan Lynch, Professor Ciaran Murphy, Ms Edwina Nyhan, Mr Barry O'Brien, Ms Irene O'Donovan, Mr Joe O'Shea, Ms Ann-Marie O'Sullivan, Dr Paddy Ryan, Professor Fergus Shanahan, Mr Jim Woulfe

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