

21st May 2024

Mr Matt Shanahan TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 21660 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of new positions to be filled as part of a new seven day service delivery at University Hospital Waterford (details supplied), the stage recruitment is at, the final deadline proposed to achieve the full recruitment number, the target date to begin the seven day service, if he will confirm that funding has been authorised and released to University Hospital Waterford and if he will make a statement on the matter

Details Supplied: The minister would be aware that in July 2023 on a visit to University Hospital Waterford he promised the initiation of seven day emergency Cardiac Cath lab access to begin by December of that year. These promises were further reinforced by Minister of State Butler, in November 1993 who announced that stalled recruitment would begin in January 2024 with the seven day service initiated by March 24, this promise was subsequently repeated (new cardiac staff recruitment to begin) by the junior minister in recent weeks confirming that she has a signed commitment from the senior minister as to recruitment approval. There has been no listing within the public jobs portal advertising such positions which one assumes means this recruitment has not been authorised to date. Can the minister advise what is the number of personnel / new positions to be filled as part of the new 7 day service delivery, what stage is recruitment at, what is the final deadline proposed to achieve the full recruitment number, understanding all of the above, what is the target date to begin the seven day service, can the minister confirm that funding has been authorised and released to UHW

Dear Deputy Shanahan

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 University Hospital Waterford is currently working through a previously submitted Business Case with Acute Operations with a view to progressing same to facilitate an expansion of cardiac services to a 7 day emergency service at UHW Cardiac Cath Lab.

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