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29th August 2024

Deputy David Cullinane

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 34027/24 – To ask the Minister for Health if there is a specialist intestinal failure centre; if not, the reason; his views on whether there is a need for such a centre; the number of hospitals which have submitted business cases to develop such centres; the years in which they were submitted; the status of each business case; and the final decision in each case, in

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

St James's Hospital (SJH) submitted a business case in 2016 for the establishment of a national intestinal failure specialist unit for adults (hub and spoke model), which was not fully approved. A limited number of posts in the business case were approved; a consultant shared with Children's Health Ireland (CHI), a clinical nurse specialist, a clinical nutritionist and an administrator. The current service provided supports intestinal failure rehabilitation for transition patients from CHI and a rehabilitation service for SJH patients.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Aisling Collins

Interim Chief Operations Officer