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PQ - 53524/19

Deputy Michael McGrath Dail Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

"To ask the Minister for Health the average handover time in which responsibility for the patient is transferred from the ambulance service to the hospital in respect of ambulances arriving at the emergency department at Cork University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy McGrath

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.

Ambulance Turnaround Time Data is maintained by the National Ambulance Service (NAS) and NEOC; the most recent official data CUH has is for November. The volume of ED attendances, acuity of patients and capacity issues have resulted in delays in ambulance turnaround times.

CUH works closely with the NAS to ensure patients are transferred to hospital care as quickly and safely as possible and there are escalations policies in place with the NAS and ED's to manage delays in patient transfers.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely.

Interim Chief Executive Officer