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Deputy Mc Conalogue,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: PQ 5121/19**

**“To ask the Minister for Health when the short stay ward will open in Letterkenny University Hospital; the preparations the HSE has underway to ensure it is open promptly; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Charlie McConalogue”**

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question/Public Representation which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

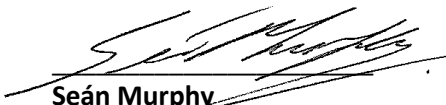
Saolta have rolling advertisements for both temporary and permanent qualified nurses and midwives and as soon as applications are received interviews are organised.

In addition, Saolta is working with an agency to employ some nurses from abroad. In the last 12 months LUH has recruited 29 nurses/midwives for LUH and HBS recruit has recruited 1 nurse.

However, before additional beds can be opened, existing vacancies for the other ward areas need to be filled.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours Sincerely,



**Seán Murphy**  
**General Manager**  
**Letterkenny General Hospital**