



Clinical Strategy and Programmes
Dr Steevens Hospital
Dublin 8
Eircode D08 W2A8
Tel - 01 635 2000

25th March 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 11618/19

To ask the Minister for Health the geographic gaps that exist with respect to heart failure service; the costs associated with addressing this disparity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Heart Failure on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

There is currently a geographical gap in the acute HF services in the South/South West Hospital Group, as no structured heart failure units or heart failure service currently exist in this area. In order to establish a Heart Failure (HF) service for Cork University Hospital and University Hospital Kerry, where no HF services currently exist, it is estimated an investment of approximately €750,000 is necessary.

The National Clinical Programme Heart Failure understands that there are currently plans locally to recruit Consultant Cardiologist(s) which will support the implementation of a heart failure service for the area.

It is not possible, at present, to quantify the figure that would be needed nationally to fully implement an updated integrated Model of Care (MoC) for Heart Failure. An exercise to establish this cost is planned as part of the review and update of the MoC, by the end of quarter 2, 2019.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Carey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Tim Carey
Assistant National Director
Clinical Strategy & Programmes