



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire  
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97, Ireland

21<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 20968/19**

"To ask the Minister for Health if staffing in the Children's Hospitals in Crumlin, Temple Street and Tallaght will not be compromised to facilitate the satellite UCC Blanchardstown in circumstances in which recruitment is insufficient or incomplete".

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

I refer to your parliamentary question above to which I have been asked to provide a response on behalf of Children's Health Ireland.

A total of 13 consultant posts are included in the HSE National Service Plan 2019 to support services in CHI that are opening in the paediatric outpatient and urgent care centre at Connolly Hospital. To date 10 of these positions have been filled (6 Paediatric Emergency Medicine Consultants and 4 General Paediatric Consultants) and recruitment is ongoing for the 3 remaining posts, with options to support service being developed with the specific specialities involved. There are recruitment challenges nationally and internationally in certain specialities, such as, paediatric radiology. CHI acknowledges this challenge and while recruitment is ongoing, contingency plans are under development to ensure that services at Connolly will open in July 2019.

All nursing positions have been successfully filled within the organisation and an external recruitment campaign has been launched to support the backfill required at each CHI hospital.

The Health and Social Care Professionals and Administrative/Operations posts are being filled through an internal recruitment campaign with an external recruitment campaign to follow if additional backfill is required within CHI.

Yours sincerely,

**Joe Gannon**  
**Chief Operations Officer**  
**Children's Health Ireland**

Mission – To promote and provide child-centered, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 Revenue Charitable Status CHY: 22235

Board Members: Prof James Browne (Chairman), Prof Niamh Brennan, Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Mr Liam Dowdall, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Gavin Lavery, Ms Brigid McManus, Mr Turlough O'Sullivan, Mr Sean Sheehan