



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

*Ospidéal na hOllscoile, Ciarraí*  
*University Hospital Kerry*



Health Service Executive  
South/South-West Hospital Group,  
University Hospital Kerry.  
V92 NX94

**Private & Confidential**

7<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

Deputy John Brassil, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St, Dublin 2

PQ Number: 40076/19

Dear Deputy Brassil,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) – South (Cork & Kerry) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this office for response.

**PQ Question:** To ask the Minister for Health the number of bed nights that were lost to Kerry University Hospital in the years 2017 to 2018 and 2018 to date in 2019 due to delayed discharges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -John Brassil

- Bed Days Lost - 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017 = 927
- Bed Days Lost – 01.01.2018 to 31.12.2018 = 2809
- Bed Days Lost – 01.01.2019 to 31.10.2019 = 3887

Acknowledging that this increase in delayed discharges has a negative impact on ED numbers and patient flow, UHK and Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CHKH) are currently working on a 8 week pilot programme looking at mechanisms to transfer patients from the acute setting to community beds as soon as possible after they are designated medically fit for discharge. If successful this pilot has the potential to significantly reduce the number of delayed discharges in UHK and consequently dramatically improve patient flow.

I trust this response is to your satisfaction; should you have any further queries however, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely,

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**Fearghal Grimes**  
General Manager  
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