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17th October 2019

Deputy Denis Naughten, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 41171/19: To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to implement the reform of trauma services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 40273/19: To ask the Minister for Health the steps which have been taken to implement recommendation 21 of the Trauma Steering Group Report; the plans to fully implement this recommendation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The report of the Trauma Steering Group, *A Trauma System for Ireland* published in February 2018, recommends the establishment of an inclusive trauma system for Ireland. Following the publication of this report the Minister for Health asked the HSE to progress the implementation of four key actions arising from the report.

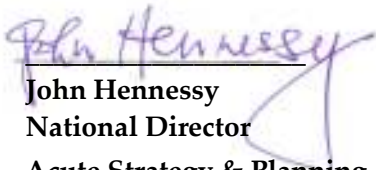
The HSE is committed to implementing the recommendations of this report. The Trauma Review Implementation Group was set up in April 2018 to oversee the implementation of these key actions which includes the appointment of a National Clinical Lead for Trauma Services and the designation of both the Major Trauma Centre for the Central Trauma Network and the Dublin Trauma Unit(s).

Mr Keith Synnott was appointed as National Clinical Lead for Trauma Services in July 2019 and will lead a National Office for Trauma Services. A plan for implementing the remaining recommendations of the Trauma Steering Group report is being developed under Mr Synnott's leadership. Actions to progress recommendation 21 of the Report will be addressed as part of this implementation plan.

The HSE appointed an Independent Assessment Panel to provide expert advice on which of the Dublin hospitals should be designated as the Major Trauma Centre for the Central Trauma Network and on the number and location of the Dublin Trauma Unit(s). The HSE will consider the advice of the Panel prior to making a recommendation to the Department of Health.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you, however, should you require any further details please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,


John Hennessy
National Director
Acute Strategy & Planning