

**Private & Confidential**

22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2020

Deputy Pa Daly, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St, Dublin 2

PQ Number: 40029/20

Dear Deputy Daly,

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:** To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the staff changing facilities at a hospital (details supplied); the size of the area; the number of lockers in use in the area; the facilities available such as toilets, handwashing basins and rubbish bins; the number of staff using the area on a daily basis; the sanitising protocols employed in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pa Daly

All ward areas of which there are approximately 16 throughout the hospital complex have standardised male and female changing rooms specifically for staff in that ward. Rooms are approximately 25 meters squared and accommodate multi use staff lockers, all have a hand sink, two staff toilets and waste bins. All wards including changing rooms are cleaned daily as per infection control policies and procedures.

The remainder of departments throughout the hospital have dedicated changing areas appropriate to their size and staff numbers and again these are cleaned regularly as per infection and control policies.

UHK Management has linked with all ward and department heads to ensure operational practices take account for the need for social distancing at this time. Where changing areas are limited staff are encouraged to be flexible with regard to start and finish times. UHK Management are confident that all staff have safe and adequate changing facilities throughout the hospital.

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  
University Hospital Kerry