



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

OFFICE OF THE CEO  
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15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Deputy Matt Shanahan,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2,  
D02 XR20

RE: PQ Ref 40048/20

**\* To ask the Minister for Health the additional funding that the South/Southwest Hospital group will be making available to University Hospital Waterford to support additional administration and nursing staff to support new consultant activities in view of approval for 12 new consultant posts at the hospital; the number and skillsets pertaining to the new activity; the recruitment plan in place to fill the positions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Shanahan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The South/South West Hospital Group (S/SWHG) welcomes the approval of 12 new Consultant posts for University Hospital Waterford (UHW). Such additional consultants will not only augment existing services but will also support new developments in the delivery of consultant led services to the population of the South East.

In some cases the additional posts have been provided based on the demands / service activity within University Hospital Waterford and as such will be incorporated within the existing multidisciplinary teams (MDT'S) already in place to support the consultant delivered services.

In other areas, these post are part of new service developments based on a number of considerations including patient referral rates, UHW meeting key performance target areas, and as such in line with normal organisational processes the S/SWHG will liaise with both the National Acute Hospital Division of the HSE, as well as the Department of Health to ensure the necessary supports including MDT & administrative supports are secured.

In that regard these post are part of the 2020 Winter Plan approvals and the S/SWHG currently await confirmation of further funding allocations for all its hospitals inclusive of University Hospital Waterford as part of the 2021 National Service planning process. It is also of note that the S/SWHG have progressed funding requests to support the further developments of scheduled care under the National Scheduled Care funding allocations for 2021.

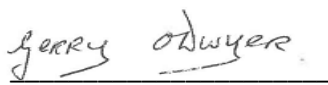
The S/SWHG will continue to liaise with the HSE / National Acute Hospital Division to progress additional funding to support the delivery of acute hospital services across University Hospital Waterford.

In relation to the recruitment of consultant posts, I wish to confirm that UHW and the S/SSWHG have commenced the progression of the required paperwork, which will allow for the immediate recruitment of approved consultant positions across University Hospital Waterford. In that regard approval will be required by the HSE's Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) which will then allow for the full recruitment process as provided by the Public Appointment Service to the HSE to commence.

In the intervening time period UHW will be in a position to fill CACC approved posts by way of locum arrangements pending the permanent filling of the posts. This approach ensures that the formal notification of approval in these particular posts and the planned benefits to the services across the South East as envisaged in same may be delivered, while the permanent recruitment processes are on-going on a parallel basis.

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 cursive script that reads "Gerry O'Dwyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Mr. Gerry O' Dwyer**

**CEO,**

**South/South West Hospital Group**

**E-mail [ceo.sswhg@hse.ie](mailto:ceo.sswhg@hse.ie)**