

By email to [Ged.Nash@oireachtas.ie](mailto:Ged.Nash@oireachtas.ie)

11<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Mr Ged Nash T.D,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: Parliamentary Question 18393/20** *“To ask the Minister for Health the concerns that led to the HSE and RCSI hospital group taking over operational control of a facility (details supplied: Dealgan House nursing home Dundalk) in response to the outbreak of Covid-19 at 9the facility on 17 April 2020; if the HSE will establish the precise criteria that was applied to prompt such a decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy/Minister,

The RCSI Hospital Group has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. Having reviewed the matter, the following outlines the position.

The RCSI Hospital Group took over the operational management of Dealgan Nursing Home, Dundalk, Co Louth on 17.04.20 to assist during the period of COVID-19. That involved the RCSI Hospital Group being responsible for ensuring necessary model of care through provision of appropriate nursing and medical staff. Safe staffing was provided by RCSI Hospital Group and included;

- Consultant Geriatrician Support (Support GP, review and assess residents)
- Director of Nursing Support (Provide leadership in absence of Nursing home DON)
- Infection Prevention and Control Support (advice, education, audit and staff training)
- Occupational Health Support (review and support staff on sick leave)
- Clinical Nurse Manager (Assist with daily leadership in the home)
- Nursing (Safe staffing numbers were rostered on every shift)
- Healthcare Assistants (Safe staffing numbers were rostered on every shift)
- Receptionist (Assist with communication)
- Contract Cleaners (Ensure hygiene standards maintained)
- Practice Development (Provided Staff training in relation to PPE/Guidelines)

We trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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Stephanie Dunne



**RCSI HOSPITAL GROUP**  
GRÚPA OSPIDÉAL RCSI

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RCSI Hospitals  
Advancing Patient Care

BEAUMONT  
HOSPITAL

CAVAN &  
MONAGHAN  
HOSPITAL

CONNOLLY  
HOSPITAL

LOUTH  
COUNTY  
HOSPITAL

OUR LADY OF  
LOURDES HOSPITAL  
DROGHEDA

ROTUNDA  
HOSPITAL

RCSI  
(ACADEMIC  
PARTNER)