



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

26 June 2020

Deputy Róisín Shortall
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 11183/20 * *To ask the Minister for Health if the field hospital set up at a convention centre (details supplied) can be used to alleviate waiting lists to the end of October 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Details Supplied: the Citywest Convention Centre

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive 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.

Based on the experience of other EU countries regarding the impact of COVID-19 on acute hospital services, the City West Convention Centre was developed as a field hospital to provide support to existing acute hospitals in the event that capacity was overwhelmed. Thankfully, the societal response to COVID-19 has mitigated that risk and so for now, the need to move patients to the City West Convention Centre has not arisen.

In this context, the City West Convention Centre has been closely studied with a view to opening it for clinical purposes associated with post-covid treatment and rehabilitative care. The HSE has also considered using the facility for outpatient treatment because the space required for outpatients in the future will be much greater than that currently available, even with the heavy use of virtual clinics.

These deliberations will inform any decision to continue, extend or terminate the lease of the City West site which is now due for consideration.

I trust that this is of assistance

Yours sincerely,

Robert Morton
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations