



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Naas General Hospital
Naas, Co. Kildare

4th December 2020

Bernard J Durkan, TD
Kildare North Constituency,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

RE: PQ35686/20.

RE: *To ask the Minister for Health his plans to meet the significant shortage of doctors at Naas General Hospital in the short term with particular reference to quickly addressing deficiencies in processing streams of Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Durkan,

In relation to the above, I can confirm that the levels of all categories of staff in Naas General Hospital are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Recruitment and retention, and the ability to obtain suitably qualified medical staff to fill vacancies, continue to be a challenge for all hospitals including Naas General Hospital and this can impact on an increased usage of agency staff. The hospital is continuing to explore all options to recruit medical doctors, including recruitment campaigns in conjunction with HBS Recruit and the Dublin Midlands Hospital Group.

Streaming of Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 patients take place in the Emergency Department from the reception, waiting area, triage and assessment of patients. A new modular build to provide additional space for the Emergency Department will be operational from the 18th December. Specific wards are assigned for the treatment of positive and suspect Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 patients.

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,

Alice Kinsella,
General Manager
Naas General Hospital