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3rd November 2020

Deputy Jennifer Murnane O'Connor T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 E: jennifer.murnaneoconnor@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 31813/20 – Theatre capacity, St Luke's Hospital

"To ask the Minister for Health the additional theatre capacity that was provided in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny in each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form"

Dear Deputy Murnane O'Connor,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on theatre capacity in St Luke's General Hospital, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that there has been no increase in theatre capacity at St Luke's General Hospital over the last three years. The current theatre capacity is set in Table A below.

The hospital is seeking to increase the current theatre capacity; by increasing the staffing level for the emergency theatre to include resourcing for additional planned cases. The hospital also uses the NTPF to outsource any patients waiting longer than 12 months for their surgical or gynaecological procedure as required.



Table A

2018 2019 YEAR TO DATE 2020 St. Luke's General Hospital, St. Luke's General Hospital, St. Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny is resourced to Kilkenny is resourced to Kilkenny is resourced to operate 1 elective theatre operate 1 elective theatre operate 1 elective theatre for surgical and for surgical and for surgical and gynaecological cases, 1 gynaecological cases, 1 gynaecological cases, 1 emergency theatre for all emergency theatre for all emergency theatre for all cases including emergency cases including emergency cases including emergency obstetric cases and the third obstetric cases and the third obstetric cases and the third theatre is utilised for dental theatre is utilised for dental theatre is utilised for dental cases and for other cases and for other cases and for other emergencies that present emergencies that present emergencies that present on any given day and on any given day and on any given day and managed in the overall managed in the overall managed in the overall theatre capacity. theatre capacity. theatre capacity.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Galiagher

Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

Jame Lacon