

3rd May 2020

Deputy Brendan Howlin T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 E: brendan.howlin@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 20566/21 - MRI, WGH

"To ask the Minister for Health when a public MRI facility will be provided on a permanent basis at Wexford General Hospital as was announced in the 2019 Health Capital Plan; if he will publish the terms of agreement between the HSE and an organisation (details supplied*) for the private facility currently in place there; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

*Alliance Medical"

Dear Deputy Howlin,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on the proposed MRI machine for Wexford 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 the MRI for Wexford General Hospital was not included in the HSE Service Plan 2020, despite assurances to Wexford General Hospital that the plans being submitted were for three MRIs – Mullingar, Wexford and Kilkenny.

The MRI was discussed at hospital Estates meeting over the last number of years, as the Friends of Wexford General Hospital had raised €250,000 seed funding for the MRI and are continuing to hold those funds in good faith.

The deal between Wexford General Hospital and Alliance Medical is commercially sensitive, therefore, we're unable to share the terms of agreement.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gallagher

Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

