



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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.

20<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan,  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 62457/21**\* *To ask the Minister for Health if he will arrange for the creation of dedicated teams to deal exclusively with scoliosis procedures; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

Dear Deputy Durkan,

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.

### **Response**

Since 2015, over €20 million has been invested in Paediatric Orthopaedics including scoliosis.

This investment has:

- Increased orthopaedic theatre capacity at Crumlin and Cappagh Hospitals
- Funded the transfer of adolescent scoliosis patients from CHI to adult spinal services in the Mater Hospital
- Supported the recruitment of additional staff, including orthopaedic consultants, primarily based in CHI at Crumlin and CHI at Temple Street and who also work in Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital

The investment included funding to recruit two additional consultants to provide for scoliosis, a new laminar flow theatre which opened early in 2017 in Crumlin and outsourced treatment plans that allowed patients from CHI to have their surgery and treatment in other hospitals in Ireland, UK and Germany.

The HSE also acknowledge that scoliosis is complex and patient treatment plans may involve various steps and procedures and we are committed to working with our colleagues in CHI in providing the most appropriate and timely care for all patients.

In this context, the HSE is committed to working with CHI to progress the development of additional theatre and diagnostic capacity in 2022 to support scoliosis, orthopaedic and general paediatric surgery waiting list improvements

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trish King', with a horizontal line underneath the text.

**Trish King**  
**General Manager**  
**Acute Operations**