



Children's Health Ireland
6th April 2021

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97, Ireland

Deputy Bernard Durkan,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 15754/21

"To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date in providing better and more efficient access to paediatric rheumatology for children with special needs; the progress to date in securing additional paediatric rheumatologists within the HSE since the recruitment drive closed in December 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Durkan,

I refer to your parliamentary question above to which I have been asked to provide a response.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) sincerely regret that children and their families are experiencing long waiting times for their rheumatology appointments. We recognise that too many children are waiting too long and are making every effort to reduce these waiting times including the scheduling of additional outpatient clinics in CHI at Connolly in 2021.

The Rheumatology service in Crumlin is delighted to announce that they have appointed a Consultant Rheumatologist position following a successful recruitment campaign.

It is envisioned that the Consultant will take up their post in 2022 following their current notice period and obligations.

CHI's intention will be to work closely with any new appointee and the current Rheumatology team to develop strategies to address the waiting times for patients on the waiting list.

Yours sincerely,

Joe Gannon
Chief Operations Officer
Children's Health Ireland
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Mission – To promote and provide child-centered, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 Revenue Charitable Status CHY: 22235

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