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PQ-58835/21

Deputy Danny Healy-Rae Dail Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

"To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter (neurology services) regarding the South-West regional centre for neurology; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I can confirm that there are currently four (4) Neurology Nurse Specialists employed in Cork University Hospital (CUH). Interviews for the newly funded Parkinson's Nurse Specialist post took place in November, however, unfortunately no candidate was successful. This post will be reviewed and re-advertised in the coming weeks.

In addition, two (2) Consultant Neurologist posts for CUH have recently been approved by CAAC for CUH and recruitment is progressing to fill these positions.

Notwithstanding the recommendations from the Neurological Alliance of Ireland, all funded Neurology Nurse Specialist posts in CUH are filled with the exception of the newly funded Parkinson's Nurse Specialist post, which as advised above, is currently progressing through the

recruitment process. No funding has been made available to date for additional Neurology Nurse Specialists posts for CUH.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Gerard O'Callaghan
Interim Chief Executive Officer