



Children's Health Ireland

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

Our Ref: PQ/43904/21

4th October 2021

Deputy O'Rourke
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

RE: Expansion of Maxillofacial/Craniofacial Service

Dear Deputy O'Rourke

I refer to your recent PQ which has have been forwarded to me for attention.

CHI plans to expand the Maxillofacial/Craniofacial Service and has submitted a proposal to the 2022 Estimates. The Maxillofacial/Craniofacial service currently has one Craniofacial Surgeon who provides a service for the entire paediatric population in Ireland.

Over the last 12 years the Craniofacial Service has eliminated the need for the most complex surgeries to be outsourced to the UK resulting in significant cost saving for the health service. During complex surgeries, additional surgical support is required which is currently being undertaken by Neurosurgeons. Best practice suggests that a Maxillofacial Surgeon would be more appropriate. The HSE Paediatric Model of Care (2015) recommended the on-going expansion of services, a second Craniofacial Surgeon will be required.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Your sincerely

Joe Gannon
Chief Operations Officer
Email: joe.gannon@nchg.ie