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7th April 2022

Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ / 1872022

To ask the Minister for Health the policy of his Department regarding men and women sharing multibed wards in public hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ó Cuív,

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.

Access to hospital beds is a multifaceted issue and accommodation challenges, where they exist, are balanced to ensure timely access for patients to appropriate services. The HSE is currently progressing work through the National Quality & Patient Safety Directorate to inform guidelines on the operational practice of mixed accommodation.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Brennan'.

Margaret Brennan
Quality & Patient Safety, Acute Operations