



**Príomhoifigeach Faisnéise**

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10<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Mr David Cullinane  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ ref 4524/22**

***“To ask the Minister for Health the status of the digital summary patient records system; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”***

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

Thank you for your above correspondence which has been referred to me for response. A digital summary patient is a key enabler within the delivery of digital health. The HSE had submitted an Electronic Health Record business case in 2016 which encompassed a share care record and summary care record. DPER wanted to validate this in the Children's Hospital (CHI) before proceeding with any approval for the wider health service EHR. The CHI has concluded a procurement and is now seeking sanction for their EHR.

The implementation of a digital summary patient record requires a significant number of foundational elements and key digital systems of records to be in place and operational within in the organisational as part of the summary care record. The HSE is currently delivering a number of these foundational solutions to enable the deployment of single summary patient record. For example, the deployment of Individual Health Identifier into the patient administration systems and General Practice Systems which will support the unique identity of people within a summary patient record, the delivery of ePrescribing in the community and acute settings, implementation of digital discharge summary's and the deployment of a clinical repository to host the summary care record.

There is a significant requirement to manage the data protection legislation requirements of a summary care record to ensure that patients' data is properly managed across the legal frameworks within the wider health service. The deployment of a shared care record is a complex endeavour, however it have been prioritised within the Capital Plan for 2022.



The 2022 capital plan has prioritised funding for these foundational items. In addition, the capital plan has also prioritised funding for a citizen portal project which will be delivered as a working pilot for elderly services in CHO9 (Dublin North, Dublin North Central, Dublin North West). Based on the experiences in CHO9, this will be the basis of a summary record cared programme.

The requirements for the shared record will include data protection legalisation in order to store the data for voluntary org who are outside the statutory HSE.

If you feel that the question has not been fully answered or you require any further clarity, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Fran Thompson'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Fran Thompson,**  
**Interim Chief Information Officer, OoCIO, HSE.**