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**14<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Deputy Catherine Murphy T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2  
E: [catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie](mailto:catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie)

**Re: PQ 6220/22 – Cataract theatre, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if the necessary funding will be provided for the commissioning of a second cataract theatre at the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin”**

Dear Deputy Murphy,

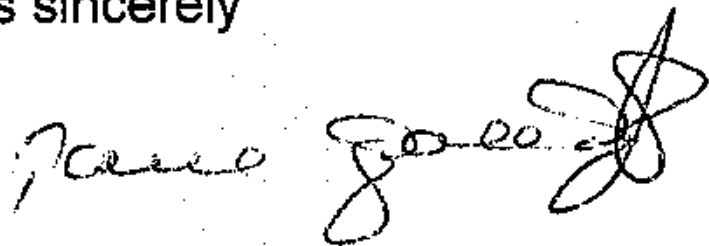
I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on funding for a second cataract theatre in the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital have submitted detailed costings for the opening of a second cataract theatre at the hospital and a robust business case to the HSE which includes the forecasting of a 48% increase in cataract surgical demand in ophthalmology by 2030 and a 68% increase in demand by 2040 (from the 2019 base).

The Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital are currently awaiting a response to this submission.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher  
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery