

General Manager's Office
University Hospital Waterford,
Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital, Kilkenny
South/South West Hospital Group
Email: uhwpq@hse.ie

24th January 2022

Mr James O' Connor TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 3291 - To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the recruitment of neurology nurses for University Hospital Waterford; if he has plans to address the urgent need for these positions to be filled; his views on the recommendation by an association (Neurological Association of Ireland) of the urgent need for six extra neurology nurses at the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O' Connor

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.


The Neurology Service at University Hospital Waterford comprises one full time Consultant Neurologist and one part time Consultant Neurologist, supported by a Locum and a Registrar. Additionally the service is now supported by 1.0 WTE Neurology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) who commenced in September 2021, whose main focus will be MS and monitoring disease-modifying medications.

UHW recently undertook a recruitment campaign for a Consultant Neurologist and the successful candidate is in clearance with PAS. Currently there are no further approvals for Neurology Nurse Specialists and there are no business cases in the system at the moment.

I plan to meet the lead clinician Dr Ged O'Connor and the CNS Marie Hayes next week to discuss service plans including the development of the MS service.

I trust the above is satisfactory but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Grace Rothwell
General Manager
University Hospital Waterford
Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital