

**Private & Confidential**

7<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy Brendan Griffin TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare St, Dublin 2

**PQ Number: 31535/22**

**Dear Deputy Griffin,**

The Health Service Executive (HSE) – South (Cork & Kerry) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this office for response.

**PQ Question:** To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether it is acceptable for male and female patients to be sharing six-bed wards at University Hospital Kerry; if this is considered best practise; if there are plans to cease this practise; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Brendan Griffin

UHK in the placement of all patients endeavours to accommodate patients, in gender specific rooms. Notwithstanding this, there are a number of factors which render this policy to not always be possible. The reasons for same are

- Infection Control requisites
- Enhanced care where delirium is a factor
- The requirement to place a patient based on clinical or compassionate needs

**Yours sincerely,**



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**Fearghal Grimes**  
**General Manager**  
**University Hospital Kerry**