



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Our Ref: PQ 12739/22

22nd April 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Cullinane

I refer to your recent PQ which has have been forwarded to me for attention. My apologies for the delay in issuing a response.

PQ: To ask the Minister for Health the amount of paediatric orthopaedic theatre time and beds will be protected for children with scoliosis and spina bifida for 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Planning for expansion of theatre capacity in Children's Health Ireland (CHI) is currently underway to ensure our orthopaedic surgeons have sufficient operating time to address the backlog which has built up during Covid and to reduce all long waits.

CHI have received funding and are currently implementing plans to expand capacity in a number of areas as set out below. The exact allocation for all children, including scoliosis and spina bifida, will be determined as part of this. In the meantime, additional theatre time and beds are being made available for orthopaedics.

Expansion of Paediatric Theatre Capacity	tbc	<i>Funding expected from the HSE -Theatre expansion CHI at Temple Street and Crumlin.</i>
Radiology expansion	2.25m	<i>Funding confirmed from the HSE - Plan to staff additional MRI capacity</i>
Beds	3.9m	<i>Funding received from HSE – plan to open additional beds in CHI at Temple Street and in Crumlin.</i>



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I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Joe Gannon

Chief Operations Officer

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