



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí**

Aonad 4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas,  
An Bóthar Míleata, Cill Mhaighneann, Baile  
Átha Cliath 8, D08 NN9V

**Office of the National Director  
Acute Operations**

Unit 4a, the Dargan Building,  
Heuston South Quarter, Military  
Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8, D08  
NN9V

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](mailto:@hselive)

**t 01 7959972**  
**e**  
**[acute.operations@hse.ie](mailto:acute.operations@hse.ie)**

14<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Deputy Bernard Durkan

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

**PQ 17265/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being taken to ensure that delays for the provision of various health services are eliminated having particular regard to the need for continued improvement in the health services and greater awareness of the patient's circumstances; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy Durkan,

I wish to advise you that Acute Operations 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 been advised by Scheduled Care that on the 25th of February, the 2022 Waiting List Action Plan was launched. It is the first stage of a comprehensive multi-annual reform programme of work to deliver sustained reductions in waiting lists numbers and waiting times so that people in Ireland receive the healthcare they need within defined timeframes. Through this Plan, €350 million is being allocated in 2022 to the Health Service Executive (HSE) and the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) to provide additional public and private activity to further stabilise and reduce scheduled care waiting lists and waiting times, in tandem with bringing forward much needed longer-term reforms. A key focus of the 2022 Waiting List Action plan is to ensure that the required activity levels are delivered, and key enablers are in place, to ensure that inroads are made in relation to addressing long waiters. An example of this is the launch of waiting list protocol online training on the HSEland platform last week

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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**Carol Ivory**

**General Manager, Acute Operations**