

**Corporate Affairs Department**

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**13<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Deputy Joan Collins

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

**Re: PQ ref 17309/22** - *To ask the Minister for Health if the senior occupational therapist position in St. James's Hospital will be maintained into the future for long Covid patients; if occupational therapists will be an essential service under the model of care for long Covid clinics; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Collins,

St James's Hospital has recently received confirmation from the HSE of permanent funding for Covid Clinics in the hospital. One senior occupational therapist will be appointed from this funding allocation and recruitment for this new role is now underway.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Noel Gorman

Chief Operations Officer