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19th May 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall  
Dáil Éireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

*PQ 22536/22 – To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to communications between an organisation (details supplied) and a neurosurgeon in relation to the decision to designate the Mater Hospital as the major trauma centre; his views on same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

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Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The Designation Framework provided to the Independent Assessment Panel (IAP) was developed following extensive public consultation in order to provide robust, specific and evidence-based guidance against which the IAP could conduct its evaluation. The Designation Framework provided many factors for consideration in the designation decision and not just solely relating to specialist services i.e. neurotrauma being just one speciality. Furthermore, Subject Matter experts were not privy to the deliberations of the Panel, nor were they privy to any potential decision.

The advice of the Independent Assessment Panel was reached following significant deliberations and was not based solely on any advice of any Subject Matter Expert, nor were the views of any Subjected Matter Expert contained in the final report of the IAP.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Goff  
National Director,  
Change & Innovation