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Ms Niamh Smyth T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 27468/22 "To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to provide a dedicated chronic disease clinic in counties Cavan and Monaghan; if he will outline the details of this service; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Smyth,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted to the Chief Officer, CHO 1 for response. I have examined the matter, and the following outlines the position

Currently there is approval for 52.4 WTEs to manage the 3 Chronic Disease areas – Cardiology, Respiratory and Diabetes in Cavan and Monaghan. Each of the teams consist of Consultants, Clinical Nurse Specialists, (CNS's) Physiotherapists, Dieticians, Podiatrists, Psychology, GP and Administration Staff. There are also specialist posts linked to diagnostics in the areas of Radiology, Respiratory and Cardiac. Ten posts will be based in the Acute Hospital, however the majority of staff (35.4 WTE) will be based in the Cavan Chronic Disease Hub which will be located on the grounds of Cavan General Hospital and 7 WTE will be based in the Monaghan Spoke which will be located in the grounds of Monaghan Hospital.

The objective of the specialist Ambulatory Chronic Disease Hubs is to provide ready access to diagnostics, specialist healthcare professionals and specialist support to GP's in the community in managing patients with Chronic Disease.

As of 1st June 2022 there are 11 WTE operational in Chronic Disease in Cavan Monaghan. Recruitment is progressing in relation to CNS's, Dieticians, Consultants and Physiotherapists. The Cavan Chronic Disease Hub and Monaghan Spoke are currently in the design phase and we hope these buildings will be operational by Q3 2023. Clinical staff are currently providing clinics in Primary Care Centres and GP Practices in Cavan Monaghan. Working Groups have been set up in the Clinical areas to ensure services will be streamlined between the Acute Hospitals and Primary Care.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.



Yours sincerely,

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Amanda Doyle Head of Service Primary Care CHO1

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