



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

10th October 2022

Deputy Paul Donnelly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 46832/22 *To ask the Minister for Health the elective throughput in each model 3 and 4 hospital in each month to date in 2022, in tabular form*

Dear Deputy Donnelly

The Health Service Executive 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.

Response

Model 3 and 4 hospitals provide both emergency and elective care.

The Health Pricing Office (HPO) is responsible for managing and reporting data from the Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) scheme. HIPE is a health information system designed to collect medical and administrative data regarding discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. All acute public hospitals participate in HIPE. ED and out-patient attendances are not recorded on HIPE. Each HIPE discharge record represents one episode of care.

In order to respond to your query we have sought this information from HPO, which is attached with this correspondence. The following should be noted:

- HPO have provided data for 2021 and advised that they are not in a position to provide data on open files and at this time 2022 data is still open and subject to change

Recent years have seen a significant impact on all elective care across Acute hospital services including outpatients, inpatient and day case procedures due to the impact of COVID. The number of patients being treated in the scheduled care during 2020 and 2021 has been affected by each wave of COVID and there has been a requirement to prioritise access for time urgent care or critical care during

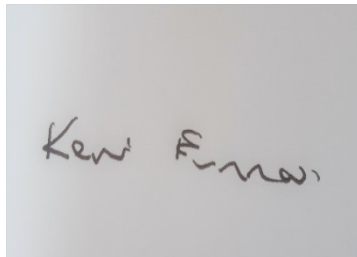
surge peaks and ongoing adaption of services and workflows associated with providing care within a COVID environment.

In the early part of 2022 the ability to tackle waiting lists was adversely impacted by staff absences related to COVID and emergency pressures. In this context the HSE, in conjunction with Department of Health and NTPF colleagues, developed a focused action plan for 2022 to target waiting list reductions supported by additional funding made available by Government.

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 those waiting the longest. Delivery of the Plan is being actively overseen by the Waiting List Task Force, co-chaired by the Secretary General of the Department and the CEO of the HSE.

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Finnan".

Kevin Finnan
General Manager
Acute Operations