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South Infirmery - Victoria University Hospital Ollscoil Ospidéal Otharlann an Deiscirt-Victoria

A Teaching Hospital of University College, Cork.

3rd May 2023

Mr. Thomas Gould T.D.

Re: Question no: 17860/23

* To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the regional eye care and surgical centre in the South Infirmery Victoria University Hospital; the date this opened, or will open; and the number of patients seen to date

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Ophthalmology Theatres

- The new microscope arrived on site April 27th 2023 and is currently being installed. This theatre is expected to open to patients on the 15th May 2023 with the existing SIVUH theatre transferring there. The second microscope will be transferred the following week and the second theatre will be ready for use end May/ early June 2023. The SIVUH are currently recruiting staff for the second theatre and hope to commence sessions in June 2023.

Ophthalmology Outpatients

There are 3 main items outstanding:

- Cleaning, validating and transfer of waiting lists - in progress
- CUH staff engagement- in progress
- Approval of the HR gap analysis- awaiting update

The project team have identified June 2023 as the potential transfer date for the outpatient service.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Helen Donovan
Chief Executive Officer