

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

Deputy Réada Cronin TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 8934/23**

*To ask the Minister for Health if he will revisit the apparent decision to relocate the Naas ante-natal clinic attached to the Coombe Hospital to Portlaoise Hospital, thereby duplicating services at a hospital that already has its own maternity unit where women will deliver locally, but leaving Kildare women who will deliver at the Coombe, without their much-relied on the clinic in Naas; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

Dear Deputy Cronin

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

In April 2020, the Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital (CWIUH) transferred its antenatal clinics from Naas General Hospital (NGH) to the CWIUH, in the context of risk mitigation measures undertaken by NGH in response to its spatial challenges arising from the ongoing pandemic. Subsequent to this, temporary accommodation was found for a midwifery-led clinics in Newbridge; and lately in Celbridge, these clinics are fully supported by a consultant clinic at CWIUH. It is my understanding that CWIUH are continuing to assess appropriate accommodation options for outreach consultant services in this catchment area.

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

Yours Sincerely



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**Mr Trevor O' Callaghan**  
Chief Executive Officer