

PQ Rep IEHG
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28th July 2023

Deputy Peadar Tóibín T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
E: peadar.tóibín@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 34650/23, Navan ED

“To ask the Minister for Health given the lack of hospital consultants in the Midland region what safety research has been done by the HSE on the ambulance and patient bypass of Navan accident and emergency towards Mullingar hospital.”

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on safety research regarding the recent bypass of Our Lady’s Hospital, Navan, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that Our Lady’s Hospital, Navan, is the last of the nine hospitals identified in the Smaller Hospitals Framework to transition to a Model 2 Hospital. The HSE has proposed a process of planned service changes at Our Lady’s Hospital Navan and has advised that these changes are necessary to support safe service delivery on a sustained basis.

No decision regarding the HSE’s proposal for the transition of the Emergency Department at Navan has been agreed to by Government.

Government recognises the very real clinical concerns identified by clinicians in Navan and elsewhere. However, the Government have identified several important issues that would need to be addressed before the HSE could implement any changes. These issues include additional capacity in other hospitals impacted and the continued ability of people in the Navan area to access emergency and urgent care.

The HSE has undertaken a review of capacity in Hospitals surrounding Navan. The review has been received by the Government and is currently under consideration. Engagement in relation to this matter is ongoing.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gallagher
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

