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11<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Deputy Kelly, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ 28439/23

"To ask the Minister for Health the hospitals that were allocated funding for obesity surgery in 2023; and the number of such procedures that will be funded"

Dear Deputy Kelly

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

The Overweight and Obesity pathway was approved by the HSE Chief Clinical Officer Clinical Forum in 2022. It is in line with the HSE Model of Care for the Management of Overweight and Obesity (2020) and sets out the services required for individuals to manage overweight and obesity. In 2023, Bariatric surgery was identified as a priority area within the 2023 Waiting List Action Plan, a multi-annual approach to reforming waiting lists that will ensure everyone in Ireland can get access to affordable, high-quality universal healthcare when they need it. The HSE has allocated funding to St. Vincent's University Hospital and University Hospital Galway for Bariatric Surgery. Phase one implementation of this funding commenced in 2022, in 2023 it is expected that c.200 Bariatric surgeries will be funded.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

National Lead, HSE Healthy Eating Active Living Programme