

General Manager's Office  
University Hospital Waterford,  
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South/South West Hospital Group  
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8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Mr Duncan Smith TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 22244 - To ask the Minister for Health the up-to-date position on 24/7 cardiac care in Waterford University Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Smith

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.

Funding was allocated in the 2019 Capital Plan for the provision of a second Cath Lab at University Hospital Waterford and construction of the second Lab is complete and has been handed over to the hospital for equipping and commissioning. The process to medically equip, complete ICT equipment installation, commission the unit and train and familiarise staff on the new equipment that has been installed will take a period of time to complete but it is anticipated that the expected occupation of the new Cath Lab will be no later than Quarter 2 2023.

The 2nd Cath Lab will 'mirror' the existing Cath Lab and will be in a position to undertake the full range of diagnostic, interventional and non-interventional cardiac procedures. It is intended that the 2nd Cath Lab will primarily be used for diagnostic services with repatriation of the 3 day Diagnostic Lists from UPMC Whitfield in the first instance. The next phase will see the introduction of PPCI 8am – 8pm X 7 days in one of the Cath Labs and the other Cath Lab will be available for elective work.

A business case is being progressed for 2 additional Interventional Cardiologists and associated support staff to enable expansion of the service beyond the current arrangements.

I trust the above is satisfactory but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Ben O' Sullivan**  
General Manager  
University Hospital Waterford  
Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital