

Chief Executive Office

Tel: +353 1 4103833

+353 1 4103002

Email: reps@stjames.ie

9th February 2024

Deputy Aengus O'Snodaigh

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 44729/23 – *To ask the Minister for Health the reason that St. James's Hospital has ended the GP blood clinic (details supplied).*

Dear Deputy O'Snodaigh,

The phlebotomy services offered to GPs by St James's Hospital have not ended. We have reduced the number of appointments available to patients and have asked that GPs book these for patients with an urgent need for laboratory testing.

A cohort of GPs were consulted in advance of this decision and most noted that phlebotomists were already in place in their local practices. In addition, the community teams have confirmed that GPs have access to phlebotomists in some community hubs. As we approach winter time, our own phlebotomists are prioritising inpatients especially, with additional phlebotomy services supporting our Emergency Department.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Aisling Collins

Interim Chief Operations Officer