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11th March 2024

Deputy Marian Harkin

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 9482/24 – To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to the establishment of a dedicated intestinal failure unit in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Harkin,

St James's Hospital (SJH) submitted a business case in 2016 for the establishment of a national intestinal failure specialist unit for adults (hub and spoke model), which was not fully approved. A limited number of posts in the business case were approved; a consultant shared with Children's Health Ireland (CHI), a clinical nurse specialist, a clinical nutritionist and an administrator. The current service provided supports intestinal failure rehabilitation for transition patients from CHI and a rehabilitation service for SJH patients.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Aisling Collins

Interim Chief Operations Officer