



20th June 2025

Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD.,
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
E: louise.oreilly@oireachtas.ie

Ref: PQ 25637-25 and PQ 25638/25

PQ 25637-25 To ask the Minister for Health if she is aware of any arrangements to lease-rent, on a temporary or permanent basis, PET scanners in the public system to the private health system; where this leasing-rental is taking place; the number of hours, if any, spent training private sector staff to operate the scanner; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 25638/25: To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide details of any income derived from the rental of PET scanning equipment by hospitals, HSE and voluntary, for the previous 24 months; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

I refer to the above parliamentary question **25637-25** which was sent to me for direct response.

Please be advised that St. Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) has a PET scanner on site, owned by UCD, who funded the purchase of the equipment in 2017. The primary purpose of this funding was to support research activity on the scanner.

Within SVUH the PET scanner has been resourced for a 3-day service. SVUH have submitted business cases to the HSE to extend staffing to support a five-day service, but this requirement has not been approved.

Agreement was entered into on 14th April 2025, which became operational on 16th May 2025 for utilisation of the scanner by a private provider during unfunded days in order to:

- Maximise utilisation of the scanner
- Reduce fixed costs payable by the Public Hospital for the machine i.e. service contracts.

No training was, or is, provided.

In relation to **PQ 25638/25** no income was derived in the last 24 months as the agreement was signed on 14th April 2025 and became active on 16th May 2025.



Income derived from the agreement will be utilised to offset fixed costs in relation to the scanner i.e. reducing fixed costs for the Public Hospital.

Yours sincerely

Professor Michael Keane,
Interim Chief Executive Officer.