



By email to: erin.mcgreehan@oireachtas.ie

3rd November 2025

Ms. Erin McGreehan, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question *“To ask the Minister for Health if Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda no longer accepts histopathology samples from general practitioners (GPs) in the catchment area for patients without a medical card or GP visit card; if so, the reason; when the matter will be resolved; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy McGreehan,

HSE Dublin and North East 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. Having reviewed the matter, the following outlines the position.

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda provides a comprehensive range of laboratory services to meet the diagnostic needs of the Hospital, General Practitioners (GPs), and other healthcare facilities across the Region.

Given the sustained growth in demand within histopathology, a proportion of this work requires outsourcing to accredited external providers to secure timely and accurate diagnostic results. GP practices also retain the option of accessing such specialised services independently through private providers.

It is important to note that GP access to histopathology services via hospital laboratories is generally not standard practice in hospitals within the HSE Dublin and North East Region, or in other hospitals nationally.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

June Molloy
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