



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

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22nd Sept., 2025.

Deputy Martin Daly, T.D.,
Leinster House,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.

RE: PQ 44771/25 - To ask the Minister for Health whether she is satisfied that the transfer of higher risk maternity care from Portiuncula University Hospital to Galway University Hospital is being supported by appropriate investment, resources and governance structures to ensure patient safety and service quality.

Dear Deputy Daly,

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:

The HSE West and North West recognises that the transfer of higher risk pregnancies from Portiuncula University Hospital (PUH) will require careful consideration and planning. This project is being managed through the PUH Implementation Oversight Group, which is a multi-stakeholder implementation group.

This group has been established to oversee the implementation of all recommendations made by review teams, and to coordinate and lead on the transfer of care of higher risk women in pregnancy from PUH. The implementation group will address the capacity issues and operability of this project as well as ensuring the necessary pathways, supports and resources are in place in Galway University Hospital (GUH) to achieve a smooth transition of service with minimal disruption for pregnant women while maintaining the appropriate standard of care.

The implementation team is chaired by the Clinical Director for the Women's & Children's Network and includes representation from PUH and GUH Maternity and Management, the External Management Team, West and North West Communications and National Women and Infants Health Programme (NWIHP). The membership also includes a service user representative and will include a GP representative.

The Implementation Team reports to the HSE West and North West Regional Clinical Director and Galway Roscommon IHA Manager, who report to the West and North West REO.

It is being supported by the Regional Project Management Office and a detailed project plan has been developed.



Working/operational groups have been established in PUH and GUH. The PUH group is co-chaired by the Hospital Manager and External Management Team (EMT) GM. GUH has also established their local working group, which is chaired by the Hospital Manager. Both groups report to the Implementation Team.

The EMT and PUH teams have developed detailed quality improvement plans (QIPs) and are responsible for progressing all identified actions in response to each recommendation made by external review teams. Many of the actions have been complete/are in progress through the work of the EMT since January. Bi-monthly progress update reports are provided by the EMT and the Women's and Children's Network. The third such report (August report) has recently been finalised and circulated.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Cosgrove,
Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon,
HSE West and North West.