

By email to: gerald.nash@oireachtas.ie

30th October, 2025

Mr. Ged Nash T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question 51257/25 *“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2500 of 8 September 2025, if, prior to the Assurance Quality Framework process that identified concerns regarding the miscategorising of pre-cancerous cells by a persons (details supplied) at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda whose work is subject to the current lookback review, any complaints or concerns were raised with management at Our Lady if Lourdes Hospital in relation to the conduct or performance of the doctor concerned by staff members or others; the date on which any such complaints or concerns were raised; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”*

Parliamentary Question 51256/25 *“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 2502 of 8 September 2025 and the failure of the HSE to provide a full response to the question, if the HSE will confirm the date on which management at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital were first informed of concerns in relation to the performance of a person (details supplied); if the HSE will also confirm the date it was decided that an independent lookback review would be commissioned; the date in which the review officially commenced; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Nash,

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.

Histopathology specimens are reviewed as part of the Assurance Quality Framework, which is conducted through an established peer review process within the Hospital's Histopathology Department. The index case was identified during this peer review process on 25.02.2025.

This peer review process triggered an audit on a sample of colposcopy specimens which was carried out over the course of the following weeks, and the findings were discussed at a Colposcopy Multidisciplinary Meeting (MDM) on 28.04.2025. On 12.05.2025, management commissioned the Audit Stage of the Lookback Review, and on 09.06.2025, the Review Team was established and commenced work. It should be noted that this review was initiated through the quality assurance process and not as a result of any complaints or concerns regarding the conduct or performance of the individual concerned.

Such reviews are necessarily detailed and take time to complete. They are conducted with due care to ensure accuracy, independence and fairness.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Stephanie Dunne
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