

**8th March 2020**

Deputy Peadar Tóibín T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2  
E: [peadar.tóibín@oireachtas.ie](mailto:peadar.tóibín@oireachtas.ie)

**Re: PQ 3282/21 – Surgical transfer policy, Our Lady's Hospital, Navan**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the reason a decision has been made to change the surgical transfer policy from Our Lady's Hospital, Navan from five hospitals to one, in the middle of the pandemic (details supplied); and if he will ensure the change will not occur until it is safe to do so.**

**that being Drogheda. Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital is under enormous pressure. Because of Covid there is no access to ICU, no access to theatre, no surgical beds available? Will the Minister ensure that this change won't happen until it is safe?"**

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

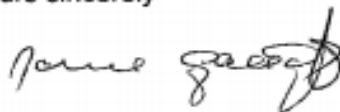
I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on the surgical transfer policy for Our Lady's Hospital, Navan, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that Our Lady's Hospital, Navan, engage a one in five surgical transfer policy since 2010.

The Ireland East Hospital Group is aware of the RCSI Hospital Groups plan to make changes to their surgical transfer policy. Both Hospital Groups are working together to ensure any change will be implemented in a planned and organised manner when appropriate.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher  
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery