

6th May 2016

To: Deputy John Halligan TD

Dear John,

The following is set out in the Agreed Programme for Government:

We are committed to the development of a second Cath lab in Waterford University Hospital subject to a favourable recommendation from an independent clinical review of the needs of the region to be carried out within 6 weeks. Then, it will proceed immediately to design and planning stage followed by construction, and will be completed and ready for operation without undue delay.

In the interim, the hospital will be asked to review the resourcing necessary to extend the existing lab hours with a view to providing a more extensive service. It is understood that the extension and funding of these hours is subject to receipt of a recommendation to proceed with the investment in a second lab. On receipt of this recommendation, partial revenue funds will be liberated immediately to allow for the recruitment of staff to facilitate the extension of lab hours.

I can confirm that capital and revenue funding will be made available for this development, as will funding for the extension of hours, subject to the favourable recommendation from the independent clinical review.

Yours sincerely

Michael Noonan TD
Minister for Finance

Signed by Michael Noonan on behalf of the Fine Gael party