

An tOspidéal Náisiúnta Máithreachais The National Maternity Hospital

Founded in 1894

Sráid Holles, Baile Átha Cliath 2 • Holles Street, Dublin 2, D02 YH21 Telephone: (01) 6373100. Fax: (01) 6766623. Web: www.nmh.ie



Máistir/Master: Dr. Rhona Mahony

April 25, 2017

Mr. Nicholas Kearns,
Deputy Chairman,
Board of Governors,
National Maternity Hospital,
Holles Street,
Dublin 2.

Re; National Maternity Hospital & St. Vincent's University Hospital

Dear Chairman,

We the Consultants of the National Maternity Hospital write to you to formally endorse the current proposal to relocate the National Maternity Hospital on to the SVHG campus in line with current Government policy. You should note that 16 of the current Consultant staff work both at the National Maternity Hospital and in St. Vincent's Hospital. In addition to the cross appointments we have collaborated clinically with St. Vincent's Hospital for more than 100 years. This collaboration has resulted in the delivery of better healthcare for women and indeed has saved many lives and we continue to transfer critically ill patients from our hospital to the intensive care unit at St. Vincent's. In addition to the women who require critical care, several hundred women annually require additional medical surgical and diagnostic resource provided by our colleagues at St. Vincent's University Hospital. St. Vincent's University Hospital provides some of the most comprehensive and sophisticated tertiary medical services available in Ireland. In medical terms, it is a centre of excellence and will provide the clinical expertise that is vital in the tertiary care of women with complex gynaecological and obstetric needs.

The design of the new Maternity Hospital will revolutionise healthcare in Ireland for both women and newborn infants. It will provide the most advanced neonatal care facilities in any Maternity Hospital in the history of the State.

We believe that the current building at Holles Street is not fit for purpose and has not been for decades and we believe that the stand alone arrangement compromises patient care. We believe that women and babies in this country require a purpose built state-of-the-art hospital in a campus setting that provides the breadth and depth of medical, surgical and

diagnostic service. The governance arrangements agreed with St. Vincent's Hospital and Department of Health will give the National Maternity Hospital on St. Vincent's campus complete clinical autonomy. The ethos of the new hospital will be excellence in clinical care and care will be delivered without any religious, ethnic or other distinction. The Sisters of Charity will not be involved in the operation of the new Maternity Hospital.

We believe that this move must take place as urgently as possible for the sake of the women and infants in this country that we serve. The clinical arguments must not be derailed by sensationalist misrepresentation.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Rhona Mahony

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Joan Intopolarale

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Anthrony Mc Canthy.

P.P. Sohn F. Murphy

Rhona Mahony

Declan Keane

Mary Wingfield

Gerry Agnew

Laoise O'Brien

Ingrid Browne

Peter McParland

Carlos Blanco

Colm O'Donnell

Anna Curley

Donal O'Brien

Stephen Carroll

Veronica Donoghue

Mona Joyce

Myra Fitzpatrick

Grainne Flannelly

Paul Downey

Venita Broderick

Eoghan Mooney

Joan Fitzgerald

Claudine Vavasseur

Fiona Martyn

Deirdre Sweetman

Anthony McCarthy

Mary Higgins

John F. Murphy