



Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation
Cumann Altraí agus Ban Cabhrach na hÉireann
Working Together

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General Secretary
Phil NíSheaghdha

PNiS/CC

30th March 2020

Mr Paul Reid
Chief Executive Officer
Dr Steevens Hospital
Dublin 8

By email to: ceo.office@hse.ie

Re: Provision of Childcare for Nurses and Midwives

Dear Paul

I refer to previous representations made by this organization to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, to the Health Service Executive, and the Department of Health in relation to the difficulties now arising with the provision of childcare for nurses and midwives.

As set out the difficulties arise as a result of the closure of childcare facilities, schools and now also the governments public health advise to set restrictions on Visitation to the over 70 age group.

Many of our members rely on both family and formal childcare facilities as their working hours span the 24-hour cycle. To ensure that they can continue to work it is now imperative that safe alternative childcare is provided to nurses and midwives and that this is not at an additional cost to them.

In the event that it is simply not possible to ensure safe appropriate childcare our members cannot be penalized or suffer any negative consequences if unable to attend work due to these circumstances entirely outside of their control.

We would welcome an early response to this pressing issue.

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PHIL NÍ SHEAGHDHA
General Secretary