



Ref: PAC32-I-1440

25 June 2019

Ms. Éilis Fallon  
Committee Secretariat  
Committee of Public Accounts  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

Dear Éilis

I am writing to you in relation to your letter dated 21 May requesting the correspondence between my Department and the Department of Health regarding any concerns held over the National Children's Hospital.

It should be noted that since 2014 my Department has been engaging with the Department of Health regarding all relevant matters pertaining to the Children's Hospital project. With specific regard to the Government decision to proceed with the award of the main construction project which was taken in April 2017, my Department engaged extensively with the Department of Health prior to any Memorandum being taken to Government. In line with standard procedure, this engagement on a broad range of issues took place at official level.

As you will be aware, the 2014 FOI Act sets out what information can be released for public information. My Department is currently processing a number of FOI requests and to date has already released relevant records pertaining to the Children's Hospital that fall within the scope and provisions of the FOI Act. My officials are happy to share these relevant records from the released FOIs with the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert Watt'.

Robert Watt  
Secretary General