

**Patrick Fannin**

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**From:** Ray Mitchell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday 1 June 2021 08:40  
**To:** Patrick Fannin

Dear Patrick

I refer to our phone call on Thursday last, 27<sup>th</sup> May where you indicated that the PAC Committee wishes to schedule a meeting with the HSE in July.

As the Committee may be aware the HSE has had a major cyber attack on its IT systems requiring us to shut down the entire network and systems. This has impacted on every aspect of patient care and on our corporate ICT systems.

The HSE is working to restore our systems and our current priority is the patient ICT systems including Patient Administration Systems, Laboratories, Radiology service systems among others. Once the patient systems are restored across the HSE, the priority will be to restore all of our corporate systems including the financial systems. While steady progress is being made, this restoration work has to be done in a very safe way and we anticipate it will take a number of weeks. All of our management and staff are concentrated on this emergency and will be over the coming weeks. In addition we continue to deal with the challenges posed by the COVID -19 pandemic and the roll out of the COVID- 19 vaccine programme.

We were expecting that the Committee would want to meet with the HSE soon having graciously agreed to defer a meeting scheduled for earlier this year because of the Pandemic. While we fully understand the Committee's desire to meet with us to examine important matters I am requesting on behalf of the HSE, given the very difficult situation that the HSE finds itself in with both the cyber attack on our ICT systems and COVID-19, that the Committee would consider and agree to defer scheduling a meeting with the HSE until the Autumn. This would greatly assist us in maintaining our focus on the current emergency, and on getting our patient and operations ICT systems restored, as well as our work on the pandemic and the important work of rolling out the COVID -19 vaccine programme.

We greatly appreciate the Committee's understanding and support to date and hope that you will look favourably on this request in what are very challenging and difficult times for the HSE.

I look forward to hearing from you,

With kind regards,

Ray Mitchell