

DAD'S FEARS AS TANAISTE WEIGHS

have serious questions around how Harvey has been treated. I can only imagine how others have been treated."

Harvey was previously in the care of Dr Connor Green who recommended surgery in 2022.

But the surgeon has been on leave

on last since

year, following investigations into the use of springs that were not approved for medical use.

Professor Damian McCormack,

rofessor Damian McCormack, the head of paediatric orthopaedic surgery at Temple Street Hospital, publicly defended Mr Green and called for his reinstatement at the hospital.

Harvey moved to a new surgeon who disagreed with Dr Green and recommended the youngster be fitted with a body cast

nmended the youngster fitted with a body cast he felt he was more suitable for surgery. How-

Shocked . . . Martin

ever, a UK consultant hired to provide kids with second opinions advised that Harvey should have

advised that Harvey should have surgery immediately — a recommendation that was also backed up by another Irish surgeon.

After all this, Harvey's parents were shocked to find out, by chance, that Harvey had been removed from the surgery wait list.

The family only became aware Harvey was not on the list when all other families waiting for surgery received letters from Children's Health Ireland updating them on the service.

Harvey's dad told The Irish Sun he is terrified he will lose his son as his condition continues to get

worse while he waits for care. Stephen said: "To be honest, I'm scared that Harvey is going to die.

scared that Harvey is going to die. I really am.

"I genuinely feel that every time he goes into hospital and I see him struggling for breath and his chest is rising and his heart rate is shooting through the roof — he's been up at 200 beats per minute — and they are pumping steroids into him.

"There are times where I have genuinely sat there and thought to myself, 'How am I going to tell Gillian that our son has passed away?' How am I going to be able to do that?

"I travel in with him and I'm

like, 'How am I going to be able to tell her that her first born son has died because he couldn't get a

has died because he couldn't get a f***ing surgery?'

"I could have sued the State millions of times but I'm not interested in money, I just want a happy and healthy kid. I want my family to be looked after."

Stephen believes that one of the key issues in CHI is the lack of communication with families about their children's care.

He said: "Communication is so poor. Any time you try to communicate with them, you are evaded. You have to be the manager of your child's care. You have to get departments to communicate."

O'FEARGHAIL SLAMS SICK CHI YCLE RACK SPEND

from the "exorbitant" cost

of the infamous bike shed at Leinster House, the Ceann Comhairle has said. Sean O'Fearghail said "it's a profound embarrassment" that a glass, granite and steel shelter for 18 bikes cost €336,000. The glass covering, located on the grounds of Leinster House, has been the subject of criticism and ridicule for its high cost.

A breakdown from the Office of Public Works shows almost €284,000 was spent on construction at Leinster Louse, has been the subject of criticism and ridicule for its high cost.

A breakdown from the Office of Public Works shows almost €284,000 was spent on construction and installation, almost €4,000 on contract and installation, almost €4,000 on contract administration services, and more than €10,000 on contract administration services.

The chairman of the OPW, who is the landlord of Leinster House and other historic buildings, is preparing a report on the bike shed project for Minister of State Kieran O'Donnell.

Mr O'Fearghail said he was calling for the head of the OPW to attend the OPW to attend the Cost row... O'Fearghail

Cost row... O'Fearghail

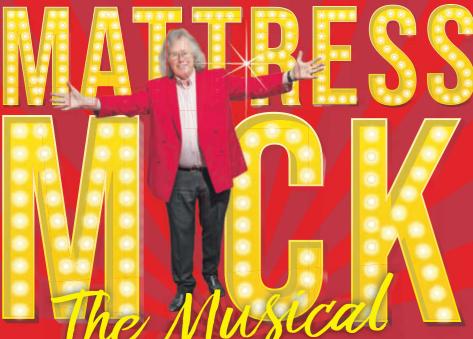
Cost row... O'Fearghail

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queries about Harvey, Simon Harris told the Dail: "Politicians do not order operations."

He said that doctors must decide when it is safe to operate, but he has contacted the CEO of the HSE about the case and wants a new appointment of the HSE and the test of the HSE and the HSE a

the case and wants a new appointment made for Harvey to look at the next steps in his care.

The Taoiseach said: "I very much regret that children can experience long waiting times for treatment.

"I am conscious of the hur-

for treatment.

"I am conscious of the burden that this places on them and their families.

"I am very conscious, as a parent, of how any of us would do anything and go to the ends of the earth if our child needed any sort of treatment or care. Yes.

pointed to Harvey Sherratt's par-

when I was Minister for Health, I met with the families of children awaiting scoliosis procedures on many occasions. I remember them.

"I remember their names and their faces. I understand some of what they are going through, but none of us can fully imagine that anxiety, pain and worry.

"We must do everything we can to help them. I assure Deputy McDonald that this Government will, and is, doing everything it can to help them."

The Taoiseach highlighted that a new taskforce has been put in place on the issue, £1.34m has been used to hire staff for a dedicated spinal team, and more than 300 operations have happened this year. In response to this, McDonald pointed to Harvey Sherratt's par-

Si to meet groups

THE Taoiseach has finally agreed to meet with advocacy groups who have been fighting for families with children on the lengthy surgery waiting lists in Ireland.

The Irish Sun's Kids Can't Wait campaign has pressed the Taoiseach for months to meet with advocacy groups run by parents with children on the waiting lists.

And on Tuesday night ahead of

And on Tuesday night, ahead of the first day of the new Dail term, the Taoiseach revealed he had finally written to these advocacy

groups to arrange a date to meet
with them. He told the Dail: "My
office has been in contact with
advocacy groups and I expect to
meet them shortly.

"It will not just be a meeting
with me — it will be a meeting
with the new clinical lead for cri-

with the new clinical lead for spi-nal surgery, the Minister for Health and the head of the HSE."

The meeting takes place in Government buildings on October 7.



him to breathe

Over just three months last year,

Harvey was rushed to hospital on five occasions, including once on

five occasions, including Christmas Day.

McDonald said that Harvey's mum Gillian has sent videos of her son struggling to breathe to the Taoiseach but had not received any reply until

received any reply until Tuesday night — with his case due to be raised in the Dail the following morning. In the letter, the Taoiseach said his team were willing to help. In response to McDonald's

Heavily criticised . . . Harris