



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig Cheannasaí na nEastát
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Mr. Pat the Cope Gallagher TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
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Dublin 2

10th December 2019

PQ 48527/19 * To ask the Minister for Health his plans for each community hospital in County Donegal; his future plans for each of the community hospitals; if funding is ring-fenced for each of the projects proposed; the timeline for the delivery of each of the planned improvements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Pat the Cope Gallagher

Dear Deputy Gallagher,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Carndonagh Community Hospital - Tenders for the construction of Carndonagh Community Hospital have been returned and are currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that a preferred contractor will be appointed before Christmas. The first stage of construction will entail the provision of a temporary ward at Buncrana to facilitate the decanting of patients from Carndonagh. This will be followed by the main works at Carndonagh to provide a HIQA compliant unit. It is currently forecast that the works at Buncrana will commence in Q1 2020 with the main works at Carndonagh to commence in Q2 2020. These works are scheduled to be complete in Q2 2021.

Dungloe Community Hospital - The contract for the HIQA compliant works at Dungloe was awarded in Q2 2019 with construction works commencing in September. The first phase of the works involves the construction of a temporary ward at Falcarragh to enable the decanting of patients from Dungloe. This temporary ward is due to complete in December with the planned transition of residents to take place in January 2020. This will enable the main works to commence at Dungloe with a current forecast completion in Q4 2020.

Falcarragh Community Hospital - The current works underway are the temporary ward provision enabling the decanting of residents from Dungloe. The main works at Falcarragh will follow the completion of the Dungloe Project in order to minimise bed reductions during construction. The project is currently at tender preparation stage with the intention to proceed to tender in Q2 2020, with a construction start date in Q4 2020 and completion of all works by Q3 2021.

Buncrana Community Hospital - The provision of a temporary ward at Buncrana will be carried out under the Carndonagh contract. The main works at Buncrana will follow the completion of the Carndonagh Project in order to minimise bed reductions during construction. The project is currently at detailed design stage with the intention to proceed to tender in Q4 2020, with a construction start date in Q1 2021 and completion of all works by Q4 2021.

St Joseph's Community Hospital, Stranorlar & Ramelton Community Hospital - The retention of services in St. Joseph's Community Hospital Stranorlar and Ramelton Community Hospital with a requirement for refurbishment of both centres is included in the Capital Plan 2016 – 2021. These projects will be progressed when funding becomes available and timelines confirmed on receipt of funding. In the short-term the HSE will invest minor capital in both units in 2019 & 2020 in order to deal with HIQA compliance issues and an agreed schedule of works is being finalised with HIQA. An application to appoint Design Teams for works at both units will be contained in the North West Estates submission for capital in 2020.


Killybegs Community Hospital - HIQA compliant works completed in 2018. Minor works planned for lift replacement and garden area in 2020.

Lifford Community Hospital - The assessment of the current building structure and plan indicate the facility has a number of challenging factors to enable the delivery of high quality, dignified nursing care. The development of Lifford Community Hospital on the existing site is not deemed viable. The need for additional beds and the potential to develop a new facility on a greenfield site will be reviewed further post 2021 when new census data is available and the recommend capital programme is advanced.

South Donegal Community Nursing Unit (Sheil) - The tender for the new South Donegal CNU at the Sheil, Ballyshannon has been evaluated and the preferred contractor selected. The project is at the contract award stage and subject to final approval it is intended to proceed to construction in Q1 2020 year with completion due in mid-2021.

Letterkenny Community Nursing Unit PPP - The New 110 bed Community Nursing unit at Letterkenny is currently part of a national PPP programme. The project is at Stage 2b Design with a planning application due to be lodged in December 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Jim Curran
Head of Estates