



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ospidéal na hOllscoile, Ciarraí
University Hospital Kerry



Health Service Executive
South/South-West Hospital Group,
University Hospital Kerry.
V92 NX94
Tel: 066 71 84000
Fax: 066 71 26241

Private & Confidential

15th October, 2019

Deputy John Brassil, TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare St, Dublin 2

PQ Number: 39409/19

Dear Deputy Brassil,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) – South (Cork & Kerry) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this office for response.

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional beds opened at University Hospital Kerry in 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -John Brassil

In December 2017 UHK opened the new 15 bedded In-patient Palliative Care Unit in co-operation with Kerry Hospice Foundation. This unit complemented the existing day and community palliative care services.

UHK opened a four-bedded Acute Stroke Unit in 2018 to provide rapid a rapid response service to those patients affected by stroke in the Kerry region. This service has been extremely successful and caters for approx. 200 strokes per year.

UHK is currently working on plans to open a new 10-bedded 'Transit Lounge' which will facilitate more efficient management of short stay patients (under 24hrs) and also act as a discharge lounge, optimising efficient patient discharge. Work has already commenced on this and the unit is expected to be operational early in 2020.

The hospital is also currently finalising design plans on a new 6 bedded High dependency unit which should be operational for winter 2020. An additional 11 in-patient beds will also come on stream during that time.

I trust this response is to your satisfaction; should you have any further queries however, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely,

Fearghal Grimes
General Manager
University Hospital Kerry