



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett,
Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An Mhí
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An
Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

t: 057 9359787/774

✉: CHO8@hse.ie

Office of Mr. Pat Bennett,
Chief Officer, Midlands Louth
Meath Community Health
Organisation, Health Service
Executive, Area Office, Arden
Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

t: 057 9359787/774

✉: CHO8@hse.ie

1st November, 2019

Mr. Brian Stanley T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 41168/19

To ask the Minister for Health the progress to date on the planned refurbishment and extension of Abbeyleix Hospital; and the timescale for the project - Brian Stanley.

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The HSE met with the Friends of Abbeyleix, the Abbeyleix Action group and public representation on Tuesday 15th October to put forward the proposals from the Project Development Team which includes representation from the HSE Care Groups, Friends of Abbeyleix, Abbeyleix Action Group and a local General Practitioner. The HSE received positive feedback at this meeting and subsequently the Project Development team, met on Tuesday 29th October. It is proposed that the Abbeyleix Community Nursing will move to become an Integrated Older Person Hub which will include 10 short stream beds and 10 respite beds. It is intended that the medical governance of the hub will be shared between a Consultant Geriatrician and Medical Officer. The team are continuing to explore options for the hospital grounds which will encompass and expand Primary Care facilities on site, with an opportunity for a supportive housing development build to cater for the needs of the older person, inclusive of persons living with dementia. It is also intended that the Hub will provide enhanced day care facilities with a focus on reablement.

The Project Development team will continue to meet and progress with plans over the next 12 months. Development of the hub and grounds will be dependent on available funding. We hope to submit a proposal for the Capital Funding in the 2021 plan.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Bennett
Chief Officer CHO Area 8