



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Deputy David Cullinane TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ 17728 20:** *To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of providing an additional 100 critical care hospital beds; and the associated staffing and equipment costs, respectively in tabular form.- David Cullinane*

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

The HSE Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) has estimated a cost of €747k for the annual provision of 1 critical care bed and therefore an estimate of €74.7m for 100 critical care beds. Intensive care beds have a higher cost than HDU beds, €747k is an average cost across each critical care bed type. The figures are based on data from 2018 which is the latest data available. This is a ward cost only and includes direct pay and non-pay costs together with associated overhead cost. It excludes other cost areas in the hospital such as diagnostic, allied health professional and theatre resources necessary to support these patients. It also excludes capital and depreciation costs.

The capital cost for new build fully compliant critical care beds is estimated to be in the range of €1.1m to €1.5m per bed. This estimate includes for design, construction, equipping, and all other capital costs associated with the project. The wide range of costs is explained by the fact that, typically, the development will be in the core of the existing hospital and will require significant enabling/decant works etc e.g. Tallaght where the proposed development is on the roof of the existing hospital. This estimate excludes other accommodation that may be required to support this additional capacity e.g. diagnostics, theatre space etc. Capital costs are naturally subject to variations with some sites requiring more investment depending on location, project scale, complexity of the site, existing infrastructure, site conditions, design etc.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

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Sarah Anderson  
General Manager Corporate Finance  
National Finance Division, HSE  
Email: [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie)  
Tel: 087 9423319