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12<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2**

*PQ 18943/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number and types of beds existing in the public health system at the completion of the bed capacity review; the number of beds of each type added since; and the number of additional beds that must be added to reach the required numbers as identified in the bed capacity review in tabular form*

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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

The Health Services Capacity Review published in 2018 reported there were 10,500 inpatient and 2,140 daycase beds in the acute hospital system in 2016.

The Review forecast that the acute hospital system would require an additional 2,590 adult acute beds by 2031 to safely manage increases in demand at an occupancy level of 85% (2,290 Inpatient and 300 day case). This forecast took account of demographic changes, and the achievement of reform scenarios that were set out in the Review.

Based on actual average bed capacity, 13,242 acute beds were open during the January to December 2019 period. This represents an increase of 602 beds over and above the Capacity Review baseline figures, therefore 1,988 beds remain to be added in order to reach the 2031 target.

The Service Plan 2020 provided for a further 40 acute beds which are not included as yet in the above figures, and which also do not include beds temporarily added in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 crisis.

I trust the above addresses your query but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further details.

Yours sincerely,

  
**John Hennessy**  
National Director  
Acute Strategy & Planning