



Mr. Brendan Smith, TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

3rd December 2020

PQ 37735/20 * To ask the Minister for Health the proposed capital investment at a hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Brendan Smith

Urgent need to upgrade accommodation/facilities at Rotunda Hospital, Dublin

Dear Deputy Smith,

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.

Work on the co-location of the Rotunda Hospital with Connolly Hospital, in line with health policy, is progressing. A Masterplan has been prepared for the Connolly campus in support of the co-location of the Rotunda Hospital.

In the short-term, it is acknowledged that there is a need to address the highest infrastructural risk and capacity issues at the existing hospital at Parnell Square, on a prioritized and interim basis, pending development of the new hospital in the medium-term. The Rotunda Hospital has proposed the development of a Critical Care Wing to address their identified key clinical risks.

In 2020, €4.6M funding was provided by the HSE to the Rotunda Hospital to address capacity and infrastructural needs in the Foetal Assessment Unit (FA), Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Emergency Theatre and Delivery Suites. This new 3 storey extension will contain a new operating theatre and additional Emergency Department facilities, and is scheduled to open in summer 2021. Given the age and condition of the original hospital buildings, however, other issues remain. In this regard, additional funding of €100k has been provided by HSE to the Rotunda Hospital to prepare a Strategic Assessment Report and Preliminary Business Case in support of the proposed Critical Care Wing, as required under the Public Spending Code.

The proposed interim upgrade works are intended to address the key clinical risks and capacity concerns identified by the hospital, prior to its co-location with Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Curran
National Director, Estates