



Mr. Alan Kelly, TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

22nd September 2020

PQ 22915/20 * To ask the Minister for Health if there is funding in the HSE Capital Plan in 2021 for the 96 bed ward replacement block at University Hospital Limerick; the funding provided in 2020, 2021 and 2022, respectively for this project if any; the projected cost of the block; the expected staffing cost for the block; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Alan Kelly

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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.

The planning permission application for the 96 Bed Ward Block at UHL was submitted to the local authority in early August 2020 following a comprehensive feasibility study to develop a scheme best suited to the available footprint. It is hoped that a grant of planning permission will be achieved in the coming months.

Provision of funding for this design work has been provided in the HSE Capital Plan in 2021 to allow the detailed design stage of the project to be progressed. The actual cost of this project will be subject to market conditions and competitive tendering. However, it is envisaged that the total project cost for the full scheme as now scoped including design, construction, equipping and other related project costs could be in the region of €50M inclusive of VAT.

The funding allocation in the following years will be subject to capital funding availability for the works within the future Health Capital vote at national level. The expected staffing cost to operate this unit will be subject to a review of acute bed capacity in the region which will determine what percentage of the beds will be considered additional capacity versus replacement beds.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Curran
National Director, Estates