



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine  
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan  
An Ceantar Theas  
An Bothar Mileata  
Cill Mhaighneann  
BÁC 8

Acute Operations  
Health Service Executive  
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building  
Heuston South Quarter  
Military Road  
Kilmainham  
Dublin 8.

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy Marc McSharry  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 57271/21** *To ask the Minister for Health the number of acute beds that have been added to the health system since 1 March 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy McSharry

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 Health Service Executive received revenue funding approval to open 1,146 acute hospital beds across the health system in 2020 and 2021 allowing hospitals to work towards 85% occupancy and provide a safer environment for patients and staff.

The Health Service Executive opened 799 acute hospital beds up to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. The delayed opening of additional bed capacity in a number of hospitals can be attributed to the following;

- Capital delays including delayed planning permission
- Procurement process and associated timelines
- Staffing challenges

Hospitals are making every effort to progress the opening of approved additional bed capacity. A number of hospitals have participated in international recruitment campaigns to secure additional medical and nursing personnel required to open additional bed capacity.

A schedule of the beds opened is provided in the attached Appendix 1.

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

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**Angela Fitzgerald**  
**Deputy National Director**  
**Acute Operations**

## Appendix 1 Acute hospital beds opened up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021

| Hospital                                      | Hospital Group                 | Description  | Beds Delivered per Acute Ops as at 29 Oct 21 |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown              | RCSI Hospital Group            | Cherry Ward  | 10   |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown              | RCSI Hospital Group            | Cedar Wood   | 18   |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital       | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Acute Floor Level 0  | 28   |
| St Columcille's Hospital Loughlinstown Dublin | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 8  |
| Our Lady's Hospital, Navan                    | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 20   |
| Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda         | RCSI Hospital Group            | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 29   |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital       | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 15   |
| Cavan General Hospital                        | RCSI Hospital Group            | Medical Beds   | 8  |
| Beaumont Hospital                             | RCSI Hospital Group            | Medical Beds   | 22   |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown              | RCSI Hospital Group            | Medical Beds   | 9  |
| St. Luke's General Hospital                   | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Medical Beds   | 10   |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown              | RCSI Hospital Group            | Silver Birch   | 6  |
| University Hospital Waterford                 | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Medical Ward 4   | 19   |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital       | Ireland East Hospital Group    | NTPF beds  | 8  |
| Letterkenny University Hospital               | Saolta Hospital Group          | NTPF beds  | 10   |
| Cork University Hospital                      | South SouthWest Hospital Group | NTPF beds  | 22   |
| Beaumont Hospital                             | RCSI Hospital Group            | NTPF beds  | 12   |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown              | RCSI Hospital Group            | NTPF beds  | 5  |
| St. Vincent's University Hospital             | Ireland East Hospital Group    | NTPF beds  | 10   |
| St. John's Hospital                           | UL Hospital Group              | Clinical Recovery and Support Unit   | 15   |
| Children's University Hospital Temple Street  | CHI                            | CHI at Tallaght - Surge Beds to include 4 bed Short Stay Observation Unit & 4 bed Medical Acute Inpatient Unit | 4  |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital       | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Surge Beds to include 12 AMAU beds for an additional 12 hours per day, 7 days per week                         | 12   |

| Hospital                                     | Hospital Group                 | Description  | Beds Delivered per Acute Ops as at 29 Oct 21 |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Our Lady's Hospital, Navan                   | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Community based step down/re-enablement beds with Care Choice Group in Knightsbridge | 11   |
| University Hospital Waterford                | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Community based step down beds Care-Choice Group in Dungarvan                        | 30   |
| University Hospital Waterford                | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Community based rehab beds in Kilcreene Orthopaedic Hospital                         | 6  |
| University Hospital Limerick                 | UL Hospital Group              | Community based "Virtual Ward"   | 10   |
| St. James's Hospital                         | Dublin Midlands Hospital group | Community based rehab beds in Peamount Hospital                                      | 25   |
| St. Vincent's University Hospital            | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Surge Beds to include 10 Day ward beds   | 10   |
| Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown             | RCSI Hospital Group            | Woodlands  | 6  |
| Beaumont Hospital                            | RCSI Hospital Group            | Paediatric ENT x 6   | 6  |
| Beaumont Hospital                            | RCSI Hospital Group            | Beds in IKA Centre   | 15   |
| Cork University Hospital                     | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Ward GD-GC   | 34   |
| Letterkenny University Hospital              | Saolta Hospital Group          | Medical 7 16 Beds  | 16   |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital      | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 31   |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital      | Ireland East Hospital Group    | 10 dialysis stations   | 5  |
| Mater Misericordiae University Hospital      | Ireland East Hospital Group    | Additional Critical Care Capacity (HASU)   | 6  |
| Mayo University Hospital                     | Saolta Hospital Group          | Additional Acute Beds  | 10   |
| Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore          | Dublin Midlands Hospital group | Inpatient Beds   | 9  |
| National Rehabilitation Hospital             | Ireland East Hospital Group    | NRH facility - complex care beds   | 18   |
| Nenagh General Hospital                      | UL Hospital Group              | Nenagh - Additional Ward Capacity  | 3  |
| South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Trauma Step Down   | 3  |
| Tallaght University Hospital                 | Dublin Midlands Hospital group | Trauma Beds  | 6  |
| Tallaght University Hospital                 | Dublin Midlands Hospital group | Tallaght Cross   | 18   |
| Tallaght University Hospital                 | Dublin Midlands Hospital group | Tallaght Cross West - New Day Care unit/ 26 Day beds                                 | 26   |
| University Hospital Kerry                    | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Inpatient Beds   | 33   |
| University Hospital Limerick                 | UL Hospital Group              | POCU   | 14   |
| University Hospital Limerick                 | UL Hospital Group              | Additional Acute Beds  | 60   |
| University Hospital Limerick                 | UL Hospital Group              | Additional Acute Beds  | 24   |
| University Hospital Limerick                 | UL Hospital Group              | Croom Beds   | 24   |
| University Hospital Waterford                | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Additional Acute IP Capacity   | 24   |
| Cork University Hospital                     | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Isolation Ward Level 5   | 4  |
| Mercy University Hospital, Cork              | South SouthWest Hospital Group | Additional Acute Beds (Lee Road)   | 12   |
|  |                                | <b>Total</b>   | <b>799</b>                                   |