



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

26th November 2021

Deputy Marc McSharry
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

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.

PQ 57273/21 *To ask the Minister for Health the number of acute beds that will be added to the health system between now and 1 September 2022; 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 (HSE) 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 31st October 2021. The remainder of the beds, that is, 303 beds is scheduled to open as follows;

- Quarter 1 2022 – 127 beds
- April to December 2022 – 169 beds

The allocation of the remainder of the beds is currently under consideration. A further 24 beds were approved in the HSE's winter Plan 21/22. These beds are due to open in Quarter 1, 2022 contingent on the following:

- No delays in planning approvals
- No delays in procurement processes, where required
- Successful medical and nursing personnel recruitment campaigns

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Fitzgerald
Deputy National Director
Acute Operations