



Oifig Cheannasaí na Caipiteal agus nEastát  
Sir Patrick Duns, Sráid na Canálach Móire, Íochtarac, BÁC 2  
Teil: 01-6424747

Office of Head of Capital & Estates  
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Mr John Paul Phelan, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

3rd November 2021

**PQ 50672/21 \* To ask the Minister for Health the current status and projected timeframe for a new build hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -John Paul Phelan – Details supplied: a replacement long stay St Columbia’s Geriatric Hospital at Thomastown, Co Kilkenny.**

Dear Deputy Phelan,

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 HSE are planning to replace the existing facility for Older Persons Unit at St. Columba’s in Thomastown with a new 95 bed Community Nursing Unit.

The Community Nursing Unit is part of a bundle of 7 projects to be delivered by public private partnership, construction is expected to commence in 2022.

Please note that the construction work was originally planned to commence this autumn but the original preferred tenderer informed the HSE in July 2021 that they could not stand over their price. As a result the HSE reverted to the second ranked tenderer. The HSE are endeavouring to achieve financial close on the contract as soon as possible with the second ranked tenderer.

Yours sincerely,

**Jim Curran**  
National Director,  
Capital & Estates