



Rannán na nOspidéal Ghéarmhíochaine
Aonad 1A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar Míleata
Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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20th July 2022

Deputy Duncan Smith
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 38347/22: To ask the Minister for Health current number of ICU beds in place; the number that are currently funded; the number of additional ICU beds that will be provided in 2023; the estimated all-in cost of a new ICU bed and support services and staffing for same.

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.

I wish to advise you that a strategic multi-year plan for additional critical care capacity was developed in June 2020. Significant investment of €77m between 2021 and 2022 has enabled an increase in the number of critical care beds to 309 funded and available at the end of June 2022. In addition, 22 critical care beds were upgraded from HDU (level 2) to ICU (level 3) beds and the associated increase in staffing increasing capability to care for critically ill patients.

The implementation of the Strategic Plan for Critical Care is ongoing and an additional 17 critical care beds are planned to open by year end, thus bringing the total number of funded available critical care beds to 326 at end 2022.

In 2023, a further 17 critical care beds are scheduled to open. This will increase the total number of funded available critical care beds to 343 by the end of 2023.

The tables below outline the full year revenue cost of a critical care bed for each level, in both existing infrastructure and new buildings:-

Beds in Existing Infrastructure (Pay & Non Pay)	Cost
Level 2 (High Dependency HDU)	€400,000
Level 3 (Intensive Care ICU)	€800,000

New building (Pay & Non Pay)	Cost
Level 2 (High Dependency Unit HDU)	€500,000
Level 3 (Intensive Care ICU)	€1,000,000

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Byrne,
Assistant National Director, Acute Operations