



Géaroibríochtaí

Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An Bóthar Míleata, Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

Acute Operations,

The Dargan Building, Heuston South Quarter, Military Road, Dublin 8

23rd August 2022

**Deputy Ged Nash
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2**

PQ 41691/22

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated total cost of delivering 700 additional acute inpatient beds; the number of additional acute inpatient beds that were delivered in 2021; the number delivered to date in 2022; the number projected for delivery in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Nash,

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 estimated cost of delivering any additional acute inpatient beds is dependent on many factors, including whether they require new construction, refurbishment (new or replacement beds), the extent of enabling / decant works, site specific statutory obligations, the extent of infection prevention and control measures needed, and the scope of ancillary upgrade and refurbishment works necessary are all key factors in being able to determine an appropriate order of magnitude cost. Developing such an understanding of the scope which is 'site by site' specific would require significant survey and investigative work to be completed along with at least a preliminary design to assist in this process. However, in the context of the above, it is very difficult to provide an accurate estimate all-in capital cost, however, for high level budgetary purposes only, a range in the order of €700k - €900k may be considered reasonable. For the purpose of efficiency and economies of scale these indicative all-in capital cost ranges represent a reasonable cohort of service beds being provided and not a single bed provision. These indicative ranges are also based on the cost of providing new beds due to absence of any specific site information and its impact on costs as set out above.

In addition, there is a further annual running cost for each additional bed.

A total of 1228 new beds have been identified for delivery in the National Service Plans 2021, 2022 and the Winter Plan. In this regard, a total of 813 beds were delivered in 2021.

So far in 2022, a total of 83 new beds have been delivered and it is expected that an additional 159 beds will deliver by year end.

The projected number of beds for delivery in 2023 is 149, and a further 24 are currently under capital consideration.

I trust this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline McNulty

**General Manager Unscheduled Care
Acute Operations**