



Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Caipiteal agus Eastáit
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Ms Mairead Farrell, TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

12th April 2022

PQ 15778/22* To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether the rapidly escalating cost of the enabling works for the National Maternity Hospital mirrors that of the hospital itself and notwithstanding concerns around ownership and control risks becoming like the National Children's Hospital given that the original 2018 estimate for the cost of these works was €18 million which has now increased by more than 183%; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mairéad Farrell

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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 €18m referred to in the parliamentary question relates to an initial contract sum for only one constituent part of the overall enabling works being undertaken on the St Vincent's University Hospital campus to facilitate the new National Maternity Hospital.

The scope of the enabling works includes:

- Aspergillus protection and prevention works.
- Enabling works / site preparation works:
- Infrastructural works, and;
- Pharmacy and extension to existing multi storey carpark.

It is the combination of these individual elements of enabling works which are being undertaken to de-risk the main development site, which equates to an amount expended to date of circa €51m.

All appropriate and necessary project governance and compliance with respect to the Public Spending Code is being implemented on the project to ensure that it is delivered in accordance with best practice.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul de Freine', written over a horizontal line.

Paul de Freine
Interim National Director,
Capital & Estates