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12th April 2022

Mark Ward, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ ref 16630/22

To ask the Minister for Health the plans that are in place to increase inpatient adult beds capacity in St. Vincent's Hospital for eating disorders; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Plans to increase inpatient adult bed capacity in St Vincent's University Hospital are currently under review, in line with other developments taking place. The development and opening of the Mount Carmel Eating Disorder Hub will improve outpatient and day patient community services, which is anticipated to result in a reduction in the need to access the inpatient beds in St. Vincent's University Hospital. This matter will be kept under continuous review, in the context of evolving service need.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Martina Behan,

General Manager Mental Health

**Community Healthcare East**