



**Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Caipiteal agus Eastáit**  
Ospidéal Sir Patrick Dun, Sráid na Canálach Móire  
Íocht.  
Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 P667  
T: 01-6424747

**Office of the National Director Capital & Estates**  
Sir Patrick Dun's, Lower Grand Canal Street, Dublin 2

Mr Duncan Smith, TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

18<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**PQ 22086/22 \* To ask the Minister for Health the up to date position with a new health facility (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Duncan Smith – Details Supplied – The provision of a new 50 bed facility at St. Vincent's Hospital Athy**

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.

A design team has been appointed to progress a project to provide a ninety two bed replacement CNU at this location. This project has been developed in consultation with Older Persons Services and is reflective of the National Service Plan Strategy for the service.

The provision of the Community Nursing Unit will be in two phases, with forty eight beds scheduled for delivery in the first phase of construction. Following learning from the pandemic, the standard residential care brief has been adapted to provide twelve bedded 'pods' instead of the original planned twenty four beds.

The next phase of the project is an application for planning permission, which it is expected will be submitted in Quarter 2, 2022.

Yours sincerely,

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**Paul de Freine**  
**Interim National Director,**  
**Capital & Estates**