



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.  
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Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

14th June 2022

**PQ Number: 27933/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of providing 20 additional dedicated children's beds for psychiatric care to cease the practice of using beds in adult psychiatric services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane**

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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The average CAMHS bed cost is based on a review over a number of years and is approx. €300,000/bed. Total cost for 20 additional beds would amount to approx. € 6,000,000.

### **New Children's Hospital of Ireland**

Construction is progressing on the New Children's Hospital which is being developed at the campus of St. James's Hospital in Dublin. It will accommodate the national specialist eating disorder service with 8 inpatient beds and a 12 bed general inpatient unit. Completion of the New Children's Hospital is planned for 2024.

The HSE is committed to age appropriate placement and to the minimisation of the number of admissions of children to adult units, while acknowledging that, in exceptional circumstances, it will continue to be necessary, where there is a clear clinical imperative, to admit a small number of children to adult units, for the shortest time possible. Children are admitted to adult units after efforts to place them in a CAMHSs In Patient Unit are unsuccessful due to capacity or clinical needs



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I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony McCusker'.

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**Tony McCusker**  
**General Manager Mental Health Services**