



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Claochlú agus Nuálaíocht
FnaSS, Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8
Tel: 01-6352232 R: acute.strategy@hse.ie

Office of National Director, Change and Innovation
HSE, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8
Tel: 01-6352232 Email: acute.strategy@hse.ie

25 April 2023

Deputy Colm Burke TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 10401/23: To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify as to the new procedures that have been put in place to expedite the process for the development and the building for the new elective hospital for Cork; if he can provide a timeframe as to when his Department will allow the project to proceed to planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for response.

On 7 December 2022, the Minister for Health announced Government approval for the Enhanced Provision of Elective Care Programme and the preferred locations for the development of new Elective Hospitals in Cork and Galway. In Cork, the preferred site is at St Stephen's Hospital.

As there is considerable service design and planning associated with the development of the hospitals, the HSE has set up a Programme Office and commenced work on the clinical and operational model for the Elective Hospitals at Cork and Galway. This work will inform the development of detailed project briefs and other documents required under the Public Spending Code approvals process. The HSE is working towards end Quarter 3 2023 for the completion of these documents following which they will be submitted to the Department of Health for consideration and approval. Once approved, the HSE will then proceed to the next phase of the programme that will include making applications for planning.

At present, the HSE is working towards 2028 as an indicative timeline for operational commissioning of Elective Hospitals at Cork and Galway.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Shortt', written in a cursive style.

Helen Shortt
Acting National Director, Change and Innovation