



Ms Rose Conway Walsh, TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

**PQ 18499/23\* To ask the Minister for Health the year each primary care centre was approved and construction completed, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Rose Conway-Walsh**

Dear Deputy Conway Walsh,

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.

In order for a primary care centre to be developed, a suitable location must first be identified. The selection of these locations includes consideration of factors such as geographic coverage; service need; availability of appropriate existing facilities; and the level of deprivation in each area.

Once a primary care centre location has been approved in principle by the HSE, a specification is developed for its implementation. This specification includes details such as the size of the primary care centre, the cost, and the proposed delivery method to be used such as HSE capital, operating lease model or Public Private Partnership (PPP). Depending on the delivery approach being used, the process for approving the primary care centre specification, will vary as follows:

### **HSE Capital Plan**

For primary care centres being developed using HSE capital, the specification is reviewed, modified where required, and approved by the HSE National Capital & Property Steering Committee. The capital cost of developing approved primary care centres is then incorporated into the primary care programme within the HSE's capital plan, the budget for which is approved by the HSE Board annually.



### **Public Private Partnership**

To date 14 primary care centres have been delivered using a public private partnership (PPP) model which was approved by the HSE Directorate in March 2016, as part of a wider government PPP initiative.

### **Operating Lease Model**

The delivery of a primary care centre via the operational lease model is dependent on a number of factors such as availability and suitability of site location, GP involvement, service agreement, value for money, full property and HSE Board approval. The process of selecting the most suitable site for the Primary Care Centre for a particular location under the operating lease model involves seeing expressions of interest, confirmation of GP involvement and submission of a priced offer.

Once the preferred provider has been identified, a proposal for the primary care centre is progressed via the HSE Property Review Group and for HSE Board consideration and approval.

As the operational lease mechanism is a developer led process the timeframe for the delivery of the primary care centre is determined by the developer and agreed with the HSE.

Please see attached addendum which provides the details of the year each operational primary care centre was approved and completed as requested.

Yours sincerely,



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