



Mr Martin Browne, TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

2nd March 2023

PQ 7718/23* To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question 304 of 26 January 2023, if the planned development of a community nursing unit at St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel will host 60 beds or 50 beds; the progress that has been made in the design stage for the project since the pandemic interrupted work on this project in March 2020; if the work of the design team has resumed since that interruption; to provide the details of that progress; the funding that has been made available or approved for the project to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

PQ 7719/23 * To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE is committed to continuing with the development of a new community nursing unit on the site of St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, County Tipperary; to provide details of the work carried out to date and the work that is scheduled to take place; the plans for the residents that were transferred from St. Patrick's to Our Lady's under a three agreement in 2020; if there are plans to extend this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

Dear Deputy Browne,

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 propose to address both Parliamentary Questions in this response.

The HSE is progressing plans to develop a new sixty bed Community Nursing Unit in Cashel. As previously communicated in our response to Parliamentary Question 3791/23 a Design Team has been engaged by the HSE to progress this project. The preliminary design (Stage 1) has been completed and is currently under review to ensure alignment with current and future service requirements. This project is being developed in close collaboration with service colleagues in Services for Older Persons in South East Community Healthcare. Details of the site layout will be clarified as the project progresses through the design and planning process. The HSE's Capital Plan provides for the development of a new sixty bed Community Nursing Unit in Cashel. Capital funding will be determined upon completion of the design of the new unit.



The transfer of residents from St Patrick's Hospital to Our Lady's Hospital, Cashel was an interim solution due to a critical need caused by the covid pandemic. This transfer of residents took place in 2020 following the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA)'s registration of Our Lady's Hospital as suitable to accept long term care residents. HIQA registers all Community Nursing Units for a three year period.

Six months prior to the registration expiring a Community Nursing Unit is obliged to submit an application to re-register the Unit. Cashel Residential Older Persons services have commenced this process with HIQA in order to ensure re-registration of Our Lady's Hospital for another 3 years from June 2023.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul de Freine', written in a cursive style.

Paul de Freine
National Director,
Capital & Estates