



Mr Brian Stanley, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**PQ 8169/23\*** To ask the Minister for Health the current status of the respiratory assessment unit at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise; the current update on the project; and if a contract has been signed. -Brian Stanley

**PQ 8170/23\*** To ask the Minister for Health the works planned for the maternity unit at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise; and the stage that works are at. -Brian Stanley

**PQ 8171/23\*** To ask the Minister for Health the works planned for the paediatric unit at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise; and the stage that works are at. -Brian Stanley

**PQ 8172/23\*** To ask the Minister for Health the works planned at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise or currently ongoing; and the overall budget allocation for capital works at the hospital. -Brian Stanley

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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

I propose to address all four Parliamentary Questions regarding the Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise (MRHP) in this response.

### **Respiratory Assessment Unit**

This project involves the construction of a 2-storey building which will accommodate a respiratory assessment unit, providing 5 treatment rooms, a resuscitation room, a family room, reception area and ancillary accommodation at the Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise. Contract documentation for the construction of the unit is currently being finalised. Initial site mobilisation is underway and works are due to commence on site by the end of March, with an approximate 15 to 18 month construction programme.



### **Paediatric Dept**

The first floor of the new Respiratory Assessment Unit will accommodate expansion of the existing paediatric department in the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise, with the provision of 4 treatment rooms, a resuscitation room, nurse's station, triage, reception area and ancillary accommodation. The commencement date and construction programme are noted above.

### **Maternity Unit**

The proposal for the existing maternity department consists of an extension and refurbishment of the existing space to provide ensuite bedroom accommodation. Initial project costs are being developed with a view to progressing the engagement of a design team in Q2 2023.

### **Current/planned projects MRHP**

The following projects are current or planned at the Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise in 2023:

- Respiratory Assessment Unit project
- Paediatric Department project
- Maternity Unit project
- Air Handling Unit replacement,
- Fire upgrade works throughout campus
- Minor capital works.

There are also plans to update the Development Control Plan (DCP) for the Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise campus this year. All future major capital projects will be prioritised and informed by this updated DCP. It is anticipated that a design team will be procured to progress this DCP in Q2 2023.

Yours sincerely,



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