



Mr Michael Lowry, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

9th February 2023

**PQ 2730/23\* (Amended Response) To ask the Minister for Health if his Department and the Health Service Executive will provide an update on the planned new 60-bedroomed residential unit on the campus of Saint Patrick's Hospital in Cashel, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Michael Lowry**

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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 2019 the HSE engaged a design team to progress a new sixty bed Community Nursing Unit (CNU) project on the site of St Patrick's Hospital, Cashel (SPHC). The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 interrupted work on this project. As a response to COVID-19 risks, upgrade works were carried out to make the nearby Our Lady's Hospital, Cashel (OLHC) suitable for long stay, residential use. Residents from St. Patrick's Hospital were moved to Our Lady's Hospital in June 2020. An assessment and rehabilitation unit, and a day hospital for Older Persons Services continue to operate at St. Patrick's Hospital.

Specialist renovation works have been carried out on some of the vacated space at St. Patrick's Hospital for the development of new facilities for the Cashel/Tipperary and surrounding area Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) and to accommodate Children's Disability Services originally based at Our Lady's Hospital.

Other available space at St. Patrick's Hospital is being considered for the development of facilities for the HSE's roll out of the Enhanced Community Care programme. The HSE continues to review options regarding the development of a new Community Nursing Unit in Cashel.



In December 2022, a contract was commenced to develop a new fifty bed Community Nursing Unit to replace St Anthony's Unit, Clonmel via Private Public Partnership. The current expected completion date is Q4, 2024. This development will deliver an additional thirty two long stay, residential beds for older people in the South Tipperary catchment area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul de Freine', with a stylized flourish at the end.

---

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