



Mr Matt Shanahan, TD,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

8th February 2023

PQ 3457/23*To ask the Minister for Health the status of the capital build programme to deliver a new disability centre in Waterford in conjunction with a charity (details supplied: the touching hearts charity); the timeline for the project; the capital approvals sought and approved to date; the expected timeline to build and deliver the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Matt Shanahan

Dear Deputy Shanahan,

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.

Capital Approval was granted in Q1, 2022 to proceed with the appointment of a design team to progress the design of a new children's therapy centre to facilitate therapy services for children and young people with complex needs at St John's Hill in Waterford. This project will be part funded by Touching Hearts charity.

The design team was appointed in Q3, 2022 and have progressed the preliminary design of the new centre. A pre planning meeting was held with Waterford County Council at which the proposed scheme by the HSE was generally supported, and it is anticipated that an application for planning permission will be lodged in Q3, 2023.

Subject to the normal planning permission and project approval processes, construction could commence on site in Q3, 2024 with an estimated timeline of 18 months to completion.

Yours sincerely,

Paul de Freine
National Director,
Capital & Estates

