



Mr Alan Farrell, TD,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

9th February 2023

**PQ 3563/23\* To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of the acreage for land use and square meterage for building use that will be required for the planned elective hospitals in Cork and Galway, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Alan Farrell**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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.

Government approval has been granted for the next stage of the “Enhanced Provision of Elective Care Programme”, and progression of the development of new Elective Hospitals in Cork and Galway.

The preferred sites, recommended to be brought forward into the planning phase, are at St Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfield Court in Cork, and Merlin Park Hospital in Galway.

Approval-in-principle has been granted by the Government to pass Gate 1 of the Public Spending Code for a Programme-level Preliminary Business Case (PBC) as well as project-specific Preliminary Business Cases for Cork and Galway. This approval allows for the progression to the Decision Gate 2 stage which involves the development of the detailed project brief. This project brief will set out in detail the acreage and square meterage requirement.

The Preliminary Business Case prepared by Slaintecare, indicated a range of building floor areas from circa 25,000m<sup>2</sup> to 30,000m<sup>2</sup>, and a range of site plot from 8-25 hectares, dependant on site conditions and planning considerations.

Yours sincerely,

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

