



Ms Neasa Hourigan TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

11th July 2023

PQ 29366/23* To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 599 of 25 April 2023 and 622 of 16 May 2023, the reason the HSE cited a figure publicly in 2021 of €4.5 million to renovate the Carraig Mór mental health facility in Cork without accounting for design team costs, site works, surveying works, VAT and other essential costs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neasa Hourigan

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

It is understood that the initial figure of €4.5m referenced in response to Parliamentary Question 47834/21 refers to an 'order of magnitude', VAT exclusive, construction cost estimate prepared in 2021 for the development proposal as envisaged at that time, excluding design team fees, equipping and other costs. Construction cost inflation has risen since this initial figure was estimated.

The scope of the project as envisaged at that time involved a reconfiguration of the existing building together with minor single story extensions. While it offered some improvements over the existing layout, full male and female segregation could not be achieved. Following review, the scope of the above project has been increased.

The additional scope of services now includes a new centralised entrance extension to provide full segregation of male and female residents as well as direct access to the seclusion suite. The entrance extension includes a new security office, new blue light access route, new passenger lift, new family room, new tribunal room, new staff room, new MDT room, new physical assessment room and new interview room, all of which are important to ensuring a safe and effective provision of service to all residents.



A new 2 storey extension has also been proposed to the side of the facility to provide a new male dining room and communal room to achieve full male and female segregation. This will also accommodate additional multipurpose rooms at first floor level.

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