



Mr Martin Browne, TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

29th May 2023

PQ 20116/23* To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 24 of 20 April 2023, the details of the alternative location being considered as a possibility for the Community Nursing Unit in Cashel, originally planned for St. Patrick's Hospital; to provide the location of the site in question; to provide a detailed account of the issues concerning parking space on the current St. Patrick's site and access to the building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

PQ 20231/23* To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details on the amount of money spent to date on the design and assessing the suitability of St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, for the development of a community nursing unit in Cashel; if he will outline the source of financing for the proposed new greenfield site if such a site should be selected; if he will provide details surrounding the funding avenues available for such a site if chosen; the timescale that may be involved in securing such funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

PQ 20232/23* To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 24 of 20 April 2023, if he will provide the reports and assessments that determined that the site of St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, is not suitable for the new 60-bedded CNU and which identified challenges regarding the amount of parking space and access to the building; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.

I propose to address all three Parliamentary Questions in this response.

HSE Capital & Estates are currently engaging with colleagues in Services for Older Persons in South East Community Healthcare regarding the current and future requirements for the proposed Community Nursing Unit (CNU) in Cashel.



To support development of the CNU, and in line with project guidelines and best practice, Capital & Estates is reviewing all options for the delivery of the proposed CNU accommodation in Cashel. The design team lead is currently completing a review of site suitability for the proposed 60 bed CNU at St Patrick's Hospital. It is anticipated that this exercise will be completed in Q3 2023. This review will also incorporate examination of an alternative HSE-owned green field site in Cashel to accommodate the planned CNU. Assessment of the suitability of identified site options will be carried out in conjunction with service colleagues.

Details of any site layout will be clarified thereafter as the project progresses through the design and planning process.

The total cost incurred to date on the initial design process for the CNU is approximately €184,000. The HSE's Capital Plan provides for the development of a new sixty bed Community Nursing Unit in Cashel. Final capital funding requirements will be determined upon completion of the design of the new unit and receipt of tenders in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Paul de Freine
National Director
Capital & Estates