



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

***PQ 24179/23- To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing ten additional acute beds in a public hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett***

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

The average daily running cost of an in-patient hospital bed across acute hospitals can be calculated from the HSE annual pricing cycle as performed by the HSE Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO). This is €1,195 per day and represents the in-patient cost of a hospital bed including costs associated with:

- Clinical staffing
- Theatres
- Laboratories
- Non-clinical staffing
- Cleaning, maintenance and other running costs

The €1,195 is a 'fully-absorbed' cost which means it includes all treatment and care costs (such as diagnostics, theatres etc.) as well as running costs such as heating and lighting, servicing equipment etc. but excludes capital and depreciation. It does not include other associated hospital costs such as day case, outpatient and emergency department costs. The cost is calculated from costings submitted by hospitals under the Activity Based Funding programme and is based on 2021 data, the latest year for which information is available. This cost is a national average across all nights, all hospitals and all types of inpatient cases from the most routine to the most complex.

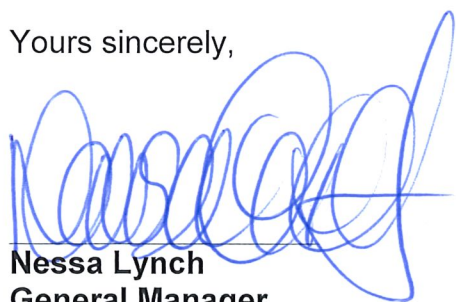
The table below show the estimated daily and annual running costs for the requested bed numbers.

<b>Table 1</b>	
<b>Estimated average Running costs of Acute in-patient beds</b>	<b>€</b>
Daily Cost per Bed	1,195
Annual Cost per Bed	436,175
Annual Cost 10 Beds	4,361,750
<b>Source:</b> <i>Healthcare Pricing Office</i>	
<b>Note:</b> <i>Fully absorbed cost based on 2021 data</i>	

The average capital costs for new build have been estimated through a recent exercise carried out by HSE Estates as follows: €750,000 to €960,000/bed or €7.5m to €9.6m for 10 single occupancy beds. This estimate includes for design, construction, equipping, and all other capital costs associated with the project. This estimate excludes any significant enabling works eg decant costs as well as other accommodation that may be required to support this additional capacity eg diagnostics, theatre space etc. Please note that some inputs are based on estimated project costs and not out turn costs. Capital costs are naturally subject to variations with some sites requiring more investment depending on location, project scale, complexity of the site, existing infrastructure, site conditions, design etc.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



**Nessa Lynch**  
**General Manager**  
**Acute Operations**