



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí**

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**Deputy Duncan Smith
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2**

18th January 2024

PQ 45941/23

To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the provision of the 1,500 rapid build hospital beds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Duncan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith,

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 wish to advise that work is ongoing to finalise the Urgent & Emergency Care projected bed demand to finalise and inform priority capital developments on acute model 4 and model 3 sites. In parallel, HSE Estates are assessing acute sites to determine the most appropriate approach in the delivery of additional bed capacity in context of service priorities and the capital funding necessary.

It is envisaged that the delivery of the 1500 rapid build beds will be progressed in phases subject to provision of capital funding. In tandem with the capital works, the manpower requirements will be finalised in order to seek the necessary revenue and progress with the relevant recruitment so beds can be operationalised as soon as available.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Jacqueline McNulty
General Manager
Acute Operations**