

CC/MQ/MC

Email: pqmidwestacute@hse.ie

08th April 2024

Mr Maurice Quinlivan TD
Dàil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 12148/24, PQ 12149/24, PQ 12150/24

To ask the Minister for Health the progress being made in the construction of the 96-bed unit at University Hospital Limerick; when construction will be finished; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Maurice Quinlivan

To ask the Minister for Health when the 96-bed unit currently under construction at University Hospital Limerick will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Maurice Quinlivan

To ask the Minister for Health the progress being made in the construction of the second 96-bed unit at University Hospital Limerick; when construction will be finished; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Maurice Quinlivan

Dear Deputy Quinlivan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Work commenced on the first 96-bed ward block at UHL in September 2022. It is currently envisaged that the construction phase will be complete by Q1 2025. Once handed over by the contractors, the new build will need to be equipped and commissioned and staff trained following the completion of a recruitment campaign. We anticipate that this much-needed additional bed capacity for the region will become operational in mid-2025.

We are pleased to confirm that this bed block will provide 71 new beds and 25 replacement beds to the UHL bed stock next year. Recruitment for this bed block will commence in the near future to ensure immediate readiness in 2025.

Excavation works are due to begin in the coming weeks on the second 96 bed block and a design team will be appointed in the near future to complete the planning application. The construction phase of this bed block will be completed in two stages, and will be carried out directly adjacent to the 96-bed block currently under construction at UHL. Subject to planning and procurement, it is envisaged

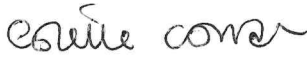
this project will be delivered by 2027. This bed block will provide 96 new beds comprising of 48 medical beds and 48 surgical beds

We also welcome the 16 additional fast build beds recently announced by the Minister for Health which will be in place in advance of next winter's surge.

These projects will help address the well acknowledged deficits in inpatient bed capacity in the Mid West Region.

I trust this clarifies the position, please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group