



Office of the Assistant National Director  
Access and Integration

HSE Mental Health Services,  
St. Loman's Hospital,  
Palmerstown, Dublin 20  
D20HK69

Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Rochtain agus Comhtháthú: Seirbhísí  
Meabhairshláinte FSS

Ospidéal Naomh Loman  
Baile Phámar, Baile Átha Cliath 20  
D20HK69

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e:[PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie](mailto:PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie)

Deputy Erin Mc Greehan.  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**PQ Number: 19254/25**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the establishment of the first in-patient mother and baby mental health unit, as included in the Programme for Government. -Erin Mc Greehan**

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Dear Deputy Mc Greehan,

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 have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

A feasibility study was commissioned by HSE Dublin and South East in 2023 to determine whether extension of the existing Mental Health Unit at St Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) could accommodate Ireland's first Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) in addition to other beds required by the service. The outcome of this study, reported in 2025, found that Elm Mount Unit would need to be demolished and rebuilt in order to accommodate a MBU and additional inpatient beds.

The provision of an alternative site for a new build Mental Health Inpatient unit within SVUH is under examination and it is planned that this unit will have an 8 bedded MBU. The current timelines for completing the second feasibility study of an alternative location on the St Vincent's University Hospital site is expected to be completed by HSE Estates by Q4 2025.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Paul Braham**  
**Senior Operations Manager (Area DON)**  
**Access and Integration; HSE Mental Health Services**