



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

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14th February 2025

Deputy Eoghan Kenny
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ4732/25 *To ask the Minister for Health the status of the project to establish an elective hospital in Cork as of February 2025; if a site for this project has been identified; and if she will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Kenny,

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

In December 2022, the Government approved the progression of the development of new Elective Hospitals in Cork. The preferred sites recommended to be brought forward in Cork is St Stephen's Hospital.

I am pleased to update you on progress and advise you that the HSE appointed the following teams at the end of 2024 to support the detailed design of the Elective Hospital in Cork and Galway;

1. Integrated Design Team (to provide architectural, design and engineering services)
2. Project Control Team (to support the HSE to manage, control and administer the design/construction programme)

The HSE is finalising the Preliminary Planning Brief for both locations and the Integrated Design team is now actively working with HSE to progress the detailed planning and design of both facilities.

This involves a detailed and comprehensive work plan in 2025 to inform the planning approach and work with HSE to finalise the design option. This comprehensive work will take time and will be underpinned by significant engagement with multiple stakeholders including Local Authorities.

When the detailed design is completed, a detailed business case will then be prepared in order to seek the necessary funding approvals to proceed to construction.

I trust the above information provides you with a satisfactory response and is of assistance to you.

Niamh Smyth
General Manager
Elective Care Programme