



4<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Mr. Michael Cahill, TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 6021/25**

**"To ask the Minister for Health for a detailed progress report in regard to construction works to Killarney community nursing unit; when works will be completed; how soon patients will be moved from Killarney community hospital and St. Columbanus home; what plans the HSE has for Killarney District Hospital and St. Columbanus home; and if she will make a statement on the matter."**

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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.

Three Clinical Nursing Units (CNUs) in the HSE South West region are included in a national single bundle of CNUs to be developed by Public Private Partnership (PPP). One of these CNUs will be located in Killarney. The new Killarney CNU will replace the current services provided in St Columbanus Home and the District Hospital (Rehab Unit). The new Killarney CNU is being built in the grounds of the old St Finan's Hospital in Killarney. When completed, the residents and staff from St. Columbanus will transfer to Killarney CNU. Work on this new unit is progressing well and it is anticipated that the unit will open in Q4 2025.

Works will then commence on site to develop the Minor Injury unit.

The new Minor Injury Unit which is planned for Kerry will be located in the grounds of St Columbanus Home. When the new Killarney CNU is completed and the residents and staff have transferred. Works will then commence on site to develop the Minor Injury Unit.

Cork and Kerry's new integrated health region, HSE South West, was formally stood up yesterday, March 3rd. HSE South West is now responsible for delivering all health and social care services across Cork and Kerry, replacing the structures of the South South West Hospital Group and Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. I have taken up the role of Integrated Healthcare Area (IHA) Manager for the Kerry area. As part of my role I have established a Kerry Accommodation Integrated Working Group. This group will support the decision making process around finding suitable office accommodation and facilities for our services and staff across the Kerry Integrated Healthcare Area. As part of its brief the group is reviewing health service accommodation needs in the greater Killarney area and this work will inform any decision on the future use of the remaining available space on the Killarney Community Hospital / St. Columbanus campus.



Kind Regards,

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Julie O'Neill

**Integrated Healthcare Area Manager Kerry**