



**Oifig an Stiúthóra Náisiúnta um Rochtain  
agus Imeascadh**

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**Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2**

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**

**PQ 35667/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the estimated the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing 1,000 additional acute beds in a public hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

A large number of factors have a bearing on the cost of the delivery of an acute bed. The capital cost of delivering a new bed includes considerations such as new construction or refurbishment; the extent of enabling, decant and site preparation works for the project; extent of IPC measures; scope of development and economies of scale; site specific considerations including planning conditions; and the scope of related ancillary upgrade of refurbishment works necessary.

For indicative purposes, a capital cost range of €0.78m to €1.34m per acute bed could be estimated. External factors such as inflation rates, supply chain issues & availability of resources can and will influence the capital costs of projects throughout the lifetime of the plan. It should also be noted that this cost range per bed relates to the in-patient / ward accommodation, and does not account for key clinical departments such as radiology, operating departments, neurology etc. which are project specific and sit outside of this cost range.

The revenue costs are also influenced by a number of factors, including whether the initiative includes a small number of additional beds or a large development/ bed block, but can range from approximately 3 to 4 WTE per acute inpatient bed, and an indicative figure of 9 WTE per critical care bed, again dependent on the bed type, location, complexity of service, specialty etc.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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**Jacqueline McNulty  
General Manager**