



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

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

**10th July 2025**

***PQ 35668/25 To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing 100 additional level 3 ICU beds in a public hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett***

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.

As you are aware, the Government's strategic multi-year plan for additional permanent adult critical care capacity was developed in 2020 to support the long-term strategic goal of increasing overall adult critical care capacity. Investment to date has delivered an increase in the number of funded adult critical care beds from 258 in March 2020 to 340 at the end of June 2025.

The final 12 adult critical care beds in Phase 1 are profiled for delivery in 2025. These are 6 x Level 3 ICU beds in the Mater and 6 x Level 3 ICU beds in St Vincents University Hospital. With the completion of Phase 1 in 2025, there will be 352 funded adult critical care beds delivered.

Phase 2 of the Critical Care Strategic Plan commits to the development of new build capacity to support the delivery of a further 106 beds at five prioritised sites. These five sites are Beaumont, Mater, Cork University Hospital, St James, and St Vincent's University Hospital. All five sites are currently progressing through the necessary Capital approval processes.

Based on the most recent available figures as at June 2022 from the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO), the estimated revenue cost for a Level 3 Critical Care bed is €850,000. I am advised by HSE Estates that the capital cost of a Critical Care bed ranges from €1.6m to €1.9m

Based on these estimated figures, the revenue cost for an additional 100 level 3 ICU bed would be €85m. Using the higher estimate of €1.9m due to increasing capital costs, a capital cost of €190m would be estimated.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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**Carol Ivory, General Manager, Access & Integration**