



Oifig na Bainisteoir Limistéar
Sláinte Comhtháite Chiarraí

FSS Iardheiscirt, Ráth Teas, Tra Lí,
Contae Chiarraí, V92 YA25

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24th June 2025

Deputy Danny Healy Rae,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 29481/25

“To ask the Minister for Health for an update on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: *Will consideration be given to using the District Hospital in Killarney for respite once the new hospital opens in Killarney. What are the plans for the district hospital?*

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

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.

Construction of the new Community Nursing Unit in Killarney is substantially completed but we await a final completion date from the PPP Company and HSE National Estates. Based on the information available to the Older Persons Service Management Team from our Estates colleagues it is estimated that the completion date is likely to be during Q3 2025.

The timeline for when the building is expected to become operational is dependent on handover of the new building by the PPP Company and subsequent registration by management at the unit. Registration cannot be applied for until full handover of the completed building has taken place. We anticipate that the time frame from submission of the application to inspection by HIQA will be approximately six weeks.

Once the building is officially registered, we will be in a position to move from St. Columbanus to the new building and it is envisaged that there will be a phased transfer of residents from St. Columbanus and Killarney Community Hospital into the new facility. Transfer of services to the new unit will take place as soon as possible following completion of the operational phases outlined above.

The new Minor Injury Unit which is planned for the Kerry area will be located in the grounds of the St Columbanus Home / Killarney Community Hospital campus. The space requirements and needs of the services in the Kerry area are currently being reviewed by HSE Estates in conjunction with service management and Public Health. We await the outcome of this review and it will inform any decision on the future use of the remaining available space on the Killarney Community Hospital / St. Columbanus campus.

I trust this clarifies the position and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Julie O' Neill
Integrated Healthcare Area Manager Kerry
HSE South West