

Cork University Hospital  
Wilton  
Cork  
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Date: 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025

PQ – 35059/25

Deputy Padraig Rice  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**To ask the Minister for Health the steps that have been taken to address the serious issues identified in safety audits at Cork University Hospital; if HIQA or the Health and Safety Authority are actively monitoring works to ensure that the hospital compliant; if any regulatory enforcement action has been taken against the hospital; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Padraig Rice

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The following measures have been implemented.

1. External Fire Safety consultant employed to advise CUH team in Management of fire safety within CUH.
2. All Audits sent to each person in charge of each area identified from the audits.
3. Each Area were requested to develop and implement a QIP for each audit.
4. Fire and Accommodation committees have both been set up.
5. New Health & Safety officer employed in the Services Department April 2025
6. Request for Fire Officer in CUH and approval received July 2025.
7. Storage units x 4 allocated to areas of concern.
8. Updated daily and weekly fire checklists in each area are signed off by each areas designated person.
9. Upgrade in fire doors in ED and fire stopping throughout the ED department.
10. Fire policies currently being updated to include fire wardens, up dated fire assembly points due to ongoing building works.
11. Weekly Fire alarm sounder test.
12. HSA continue to inspect the hospital on a regular basis.

13. Fire Warden training, Fire Staff training and Fire extinguisher training continue to be completed throughout the CUH on an ongoing basis.
14. New Training provider commencing Aug 2025 to include the above and fire evacuation training, effectiveness of fire compartmentation and fire doors as critical infrastructure in fire prevention.
15. Ongoing checks of Fire safety systems to include fire alarms, emergency lighting, Fire Doors, fire extinguishers.

Storage continues to be an issue throughout the campus due to the continued increase in patient services and staffing throughout the campus.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Deirdre O'Keeffe  
Chief Executive Officer