



Deputy Cian O'Callaghan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

11th March 2025

PQ11272/25 To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the progress of the promised additional 117 ICU beds; and if she will make a statement on the matter. - Cian O'Callaghan

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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.

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. The plan is clinically led and aligns with the National Critical Care Clinical Programmes "hub and spoke" Model of Care and the vision set out in Sláintecare of "right care, right place, right time".

This Strategic Plan is planned over two phases to bring adult critical care bed capacity to 458 beds at the end of Phase 2, to improve the capacity and capability of the system to provide critical care in line with the Model of Care, and includes investment in the development of the Critical Care Retrieval Service and education and training initiatives to develop the necessary skilled workforce.

Investment in the Strategic Plan has enabled the number of adult critical care beds to increase from **258** adult Critical Care beds in March 2020 to **340** at the end of 2024.

The balance of Phase 1 is profiled for delivery in 2025 with a further 6 adult critical care beds to be delivered in Q3, 2025 in SVUH with a further 6 in the Mater by the end of 2025.

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.

Please see below in the appendix, the details of the additional Phase 1 capacity provided to date by hospital; the planned capacity for 2025 and the Phase 2 capacity per site.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Ivory, General Manager, Access & Integration

Table 2 – Funded Adult Critical Care Capacity under the Strategic Plan 2020 to Date

	2020-2021		Phase 1 2022		Phase 1 & Phase 1+ 2023				Phase 1 & Phase 1+ 2024							Phase 1 & Phase 1+ 2025				Estimated delivery of Phase 2 - 2026-29										
Region/Hospital*	Beds March 2020	NSP	Phase 1 Beds opened 2020-21	NSP	Phase 1 Beds Opened 2022	Total Beds end 2022	NSP	Phase	Phase 1/1+ Opened 2023	Total Beds end 2023	NSP	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Phase 1/1+ Opened 2024	Phase 1/1+ Remaining 2024	Total Beds end 2024	NSP	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total Beds end 2025	Total End Phase 1/1+	Planned PZ beds	Total			
HSE Dublin and North East																														
Cavan Hospital	4	NSP 21	1			5			0	5								5	5						5	5		5		
Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda	8					8			0	8								8	8						8	8		8		
Navan Hospital	2					2			0	2								2	2						2	2		2		
NMWH	32	NSP 21	3	NSP 21	6	41	NSP 22	Phase 1	0	41	NSP24	2*	2*			4	0	45	NSP24	2	2	2	2	51	51	12	63			
Beaumont Hospital	25	NSP 21	2			27			0	27								27	27					27	27	22	49			
Connolly Hospital	4	NSP 21	2			6			0	6								6	6					6	6		6			
HSE Down and Midlands																														
Ross General Hospital	4								0	4								4	4					4	4		4			
MRR Portlaoise	2					2			0	2								2	2					2	2		2			
MRR Tullamore	4	NSP 21	2			6			0	6	NSP24		1			1	0	7	7					7	7		7			
MRR Mullingar	6					6			0	6								6	6					6	6		6			
Tallaght University Hospital	14			NSP 21	12	26			0	26								26	26					26	26		26			
St James's Hospital	33	NSP 21	NSP 21	1	36	NSP23	Phase 1+		0	36	NSP24	1	2			3	0	39	39					39	39	19	58			
HSE Dublin and South East																														
St Vincents University Hospital	16	NSP 21	2	NSP 21	1	19	NSP21(2)/NSP22(7)	Phase 1	2	21	NSP24					0	21	NSP24	6		27	27	27	27	19		46			
St Luke's Kilkenny Hospital	4					4			0	4								4	4					4	4		4			
Wexford General Hospital	5					5			0	5								5	5					5	5		5			
24th Tippetary General Hospital	4	NSP 21	1			5			0	5								5	5					5	5		5			
University Hospital Waterford	9	NSP 21	2			11			0	11								11	11					11	11		11			
HSE South West																														
Cork University Hospital	19	NSP 21	3	NSP 22	3	25	NSP22(1)/NSP23(4)	Phase 1/	3	28	NSP24	2				2	0	30						30	30	34		64		
Mercy University Hospital	5	NSP 21	1			6			0	6								6	6					6	6		6			
Limerick University Hospital	5	NSP 21	1			6			0	6								6	6					6	6		6			
HSE West and North West																														
Letterkenny University Hospital	5	NSP 21	1			6			0	6								6	6					6	6		6			
Portlincula University Hospital	6					6				6								6	6					6	6		6			
Sligo University Hospital	5	NSP 21	1			6	NSP 23	Phase 1+	1	7	NSP24	1				1	0	8	8					8	8		8			
Mayo University Hospital	3					3			0	3								3	3					3	3		3			
Galway University Hospital	18	NSP 21	4			24			0	24								24	24					24	24		24			
HSE Mid West																														
University Hospital Limerick	18	NSP 21	10			28			0	28								28	28					28	28		28			
Total	258		42		23	323			6	329		1	5	5	0	11	0	340		2	0	8	2	352	352	106	458			
Runded Capacity - End December 2024				340		* Hospitals presented per Region - change from Hospital Group presentation.																								