

Head of Service for Older Persons
HSE South West - Health Service Executive
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Ceann na Seirbhíse do Dhaoine Scothaosta
FSS Iardheiscirt -Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta
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5th June 2025

Deputy Michael Cahill, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 28083/25

“To ask the Minister for Health to give a detailed progress report in regard to the new Killarney community nursing unit; the delivery timeline for this long awaited project for the people of Killarney, east and mid Kerry and throughout the county; and if she will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The new Killarney Community Nursing Unit will replace and enhance the current services provided at Killarney Community Hospitals (incorporating St Columbanus's Home and the District Hospital/Rehab Unit), offering our residents high quality accommodation and living space. The new Unit will contain 130 single, en-suite bedrooms, including 30 dementia-specific beds. Delivery of this capital project is part of a (PPP) Public Private Partnership development.

The HSE's National Estates Department continues to work closely with the contractor to confirm a completion date for the construction phase. Local management has been advised that we can expect the building to be handed over to the HSE for the next phase of the development during Q3 2025.

It is important to note that substantial work will be required to fit-out the interior of the building even when this construction phase is completed. Transforming a building from an empty shell to a health facility is a complex and intensive process. The new facility must also be inspected, assessed and ultimately registered by HIQA. This is a legal requirement before we can accept any residents to the new unit.

Once the contractor hands over the completed building ready for registration, we will be in a position to share a more detailed timeline, taking into account the operational phases outlined above. HSE South West will continue to keep our residents and staff updated on developments in this regard.

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

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older Persons