

General Manager's Office
University Hospital Galway
Newcastle Road
Galway
Tel: (091) 544200

17th October, 2025

Deputy Claire Kerrane,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare St.,
Dublin 2.

RE: PQ 54690/25 To ask the Minister for Health if plans were considered to move cancer services in the Galway/Roscommon area to Merlin Park; if consultants in the area put together a clear proposal to set up a day ward type service on a floor of the building; if such a proposal was refused by the HSE; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Claire Kerrane

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

The HSE has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above.

University Hospital Galway is identified as one of eight designated cancer centres in the country. As part of the Development Control Plan for Galway University Hospitals, we have included plans for additional Ward Blocks and an Ambulatory Cancer Centre which will be best placed on the UHG site.

The development of Ward Blocks will provide much needed bed capacity to support the urgent emergency and cancer care needs for the region. An ambulatory cancer centre will facilitate outpatients, systemic therapy, oral medicine and acute oncology. This centre will be designed with projected demand in mind to ensure a service that has the capacity and facilities to meet the needs of the patient population.

Other works which are currently planned for the Merlin Park University Hospital site include the Surgical Hub & Elective Hospital which will provide much needed capacity for scheduled and unscheduled patient services, including many planned / scheduled day case procedures. A phase 2 development for outpatients is also currently in design phase to facilitate decanting further procedure based outpatients from the UHG site to MPUH.

Our outreach service is currently provided in Merlin Park University Hospital which facilitates low risk Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy treatments.

A proposal to extend our Haematology/Oncology Day Ward in UHG has been reviewed and in order to provide additional capacity to address current requirements, we are preparing to undertake works to facilitate additional treatment chairs in the current Haematology / Oncology Day Ward in UHG. These works are in progress.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Kane
General Manager,
Galway University Hospitals