



HSE Capital and Estates  
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21 May 2024

Deputy Duncan Smith, T.D.  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ Reference Number 16894/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the Cashel community nursing unit, following previous indications that a decision on the unit would be made in Q1 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Smith

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

*I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.*

It was anticipated the HSE would be in a position to make a decision regarding the acquisition of some additional land adjacent to its site in the Palmer's Hill area, in Q1 this year. The HSE engaged an architectural consultancy firm to progress the option of developing the new Community Nursing Unit (CNU) for Older Persons on the site.

A process of discussions with the local authority has followed, including considerations relating to access of the site, and the possible requirement for some additional land in its vicinity and the current zoning of the location. It is the intention of the HSE to make a submission as part of the upcoming review of the Local Authority's development plan for Cashel, later this year. As a result, a decision on the purchase of this property will not be made until after that process is concluded. The proposed site at Palmers Hill is in the ownership of the HSE and is its preference for the development of this facility.

The HSE is also examining other sites in the Cashel locality, as part of an overall option appraisal for the project. A Decision on the location of the new CNU is expected to be made by the end of the year. The HSE remains committed to the development of a new 60-bed Community Nursing Unit for Older Persons in Cashel as part of the HSE's Capital Plan.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ciarán Ruane', written over a horizontal line.

**Ciarán Ruane**  
**Estates Manager**  
**HSE Capital & Estates Department**