



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí**

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**Deputy Thomas Gould**  
**Dáil Éireann**  
**Leinster House**  
**Dublin 2**  
*By email only*

**28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**PQ 9636/24 To ask the Minister for Health the current stage of the elective hospital in Cork. -Thomas Gould**

Dear Deputy Gould,

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

Since the approval in December 2022 of the Elective Hospitals Preliminary Business Case, the HSE has been progressing the Elective Hospitals Programme. This includes work to further define the shape and scale of the hospitals and how they will operate and the initiation of procurement, ICT and workforce planning. The HSE is also preparing to develop detailed project briefs, design proposals, related business cases and other material, for submission to DPER. This is in accordance with approval gate 2 'Pre-tender Project Design, Planning and Procurement Strategy' of the Infrastructure Guidelines (previously the Public Spending Code), prior to approval to proceed to tender in due course.

The HSE is in the process of procuring an Architect Led Design Team which will be appointed to provide the full scope of design services for the proposed Elective Hospital in Cork (and in Galway) and the provision of services required to support the Department of Health with the preliminary business case for the Elective Hospital(s) in Dublin.

Stage 1 - The preliminary qualification stage has concluded and,

Stage 2 - Tender is due to commence in April, with the successful Architect Led Design Team in place by summer. The appointment of the complementary Project Control team will also be coordinated around this timeframe.

The HSE have also concluded a tender competition for Business Management Consultancy and Health Planning Advisory Services to support the Elective Hospitals Programme. The contract was awarded to Deloitte and support was initiated in late February 2024.

The HSE is also addressing waiting lists in the shorter term by expediting the development of 'Surgical Hubs' at locations across the country – including Cork. Planning application for the development of a Surgical Hub at CUH lodged and enabling works are underway.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ellen McLoughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a light grey rectangular box.

**Ellen McLoughlin,  
General Manager, Acute Operations**