



Ceannasaí Seirbhísí Duine Níos Sine,  
ECSP Lár Tíre An Lú An Mhí,  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
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21<sup>st</sup> March, 2024

Deputy Fergus O' Dowd, T.D.,  
Dail Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 1623/24 – To ask the Minister for Health when he expects the new St. Marys Hospital in Drogheda to be fully operational; if the HSE moratorium has impacted on the progress of the facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Fergus O'Dowd**

Dear Deputy O' Dowd

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. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

A new modern 30 bed dementia specific community nursing unit has been built on the grounds of the existing site of St Mary's CNU (30 beds) and Boyne View House (21 beds) in Drogheda now called The Village Residence. On the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 the residents in the old Boyne View House transferred to the new Village Residence. There are now a total of 60 beds in the Village Residence which is an increase in nine (9) additional beds.

There were a total of 21 beds in the old Boyne View House broken down as 18 Long Term Care beds and three (3) Respite Care beds. A business case has been submitted to national HSE for additional funding and approval to open the nine (9) new development beds and once approval is sought Older Person Services will move to recruit additional staffing to support these beds.

I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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**Dr Donal Fitzsimons**  
Head of Service, Older Persons Services  
Midlands Louth Meath CHO