



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

4A, Áras Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, An
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Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

4th July 2024

PQ 28806/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing 1,000 additional acute beds in a public hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

HSE Finance, Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) have advised that the average daily running cost of delivering an in-patient clinical setting bed is €1,202.

This figure is based on 2022 data and represents the in-patient cost of a hospital bed including costs associated with:

- Clinical staffing
- Theatres
- Laboratories
- Non-clinical staffing
- Cleaning, maintenance and other running costs

The €1,202 is a 'fully-absorbed' cost which means it includes all treatment and care costs (such as diagnostics, theatres etc.) as well as running costs such as heating and lighting, servicing equipment etc. but excludes capital and depreciation. It does not include other associated hospital costs such as day case, outpatient and emergency department costs.

This cost is a national average across all nights, all hospitals and all types of inpatient cases from the most routine to the most complex.

Also of note; the Acute Hospital Inpatient Bed Capacity Expansion Plan 2024- 2031, was announced by the Minister in late May. This will support a significant increase in bed capacity within the Acute Hospital system.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Access and Integration (Acute Services)