



Deputy Duncan Smith
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

18th September 2024

PQ 32888/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional hospital beds have been delivered in each of 2023 and 2024 to date; the breakdown by type of bed that is, acute, step down and so on; the expected end of year delivery; his plans for 2025; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Deputy Duncan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith,

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.

A total of 225 Acute inpatient beds have been delivered in 2023 and 2024 to date. A further 78 beds are planned for delivery as per the National Service Plan 2024 prior to year end, the breakdown of which is outlined in Appendix 1 hereunder.

The National Acute Bed Expansion Plan announced in May 2024 outlines that it is anticipated that n=3438 additional and n=929 replacement acute inpatient beds will be delivered over the period 2024 to 2031. This plan presents a national response, envisaged by the National Development Plan, and that allows for the planning and building of additional acute inpatient bed capacity for 2024–2030 across the Health Regions.

The pace of delivery of this overall plan and the basis on which it may need to adapt is dependent on several critical factors, including:

- The provision of capital funding allocated through the National Development Plan currently provided to 2026.
- Site readiness that is dependent on decanting activity off-site, progressing enabling works to free up space to build additional capacity, engagement with providers to relocate existing and access new utility service capacity.
- Engagement with planning authorities and the statutory planning process.
- Public Procurement requirements and Infrastructure Guidance for appraisal and delivery.
- Available construction sector capacity and modern construction technologies that can respond to each of the projects at site and regional level.
- The provision of current funding as part of the annual Estimates process agreed by Government to support pay and non-pay costs.
- Operational delivery will also be dependent on recruitment of necessary workforce to bring this new capacity into service.



I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline McNulty

Jacqueline McNulty
General Manager,
Access and Integration



Appendix 1

Hospital Group	Hospital	Beds Delivered 2023	Beds delivered 2024	Total Beds delivered	Balance of Beds to open 2024
		156	69	225	78
CHI	Our ladys hospital Crumlin	10		10	0
DMHG	MRH Tullamore	6		6	0
DMHG	St James's Hospital	8		8	4
DMHG	Naas General Hospital	12		12	0
IEHG	National Rehabilitation Hospital	6		6	0
IEHG	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Phase I	40		40	0
IEHG	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Phase II	8	32	40	0
IEHG	St Lukes Kilkenny			0	18
IEHG	Kilcreen			0	18
RCSI	Cavan/Monaghan General Hospital	8		8	0
RCSI	Connolly Hospital		13	13	2
Saolta	Letterkenny University Hospital	3		3	0
Saolta	Portiuncula University Hospital	12		12	10
Saolta	Sligo General Hospital			0	26
SSWHG	South Tipperary General Hospital	33		33	0
SSWHG	Mallow General Hospital	10	24	34	0
	Total	156	69	225	78