



Mr Jim O'Callaghan, TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

4th November 2024

PQ 43304/24*To ask the Minister for Health the projected cost of delivering the 3,000 additional hospital beds outlined in a report (details supplied: Acute Hospital Inpatient Bed Capacity Expansion Plan 2024 – 2031)-Jim O'Callaghan

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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.

It should be noted that a large number of factors have a bearing on the cost and development timeframes of an acute bed development. These include such considerations as to whether the project is entirely new construction or includes some element of refurbishment; the extent of enabling, decant and site preparation works; extent of IPC measures; scope of development and economies of scale; site specific considerations including planning conditions; and the scope of related ancillary upgrade of refurbishment works necessary to the successful operation of the beds provided.

In the context of the above, current external factors such as inflation rates, supply chain issues & availability of resources can influence the capital costs of projects. For high level budgetary purposes only, a capital cost range of €0.75m to €1.3m per acute bed could be considered a reasonable current capital cost with cost base dates as indicated. It should be noted that this high level budgetary cost range per bed relates to the in-patient / ward accommodation, and does not account for key clinical departments such as radiology, operating departments, neurology etc; which are project specific and sit outside of this cost range

Yours sincerely

Brian O'Connell,
Interim National Director
Capital & Estates

