

6th January, 2025

Mr. Michael Cahill, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 46627/24

" To ask the Minister for Health to expedite the provision of a minor injuries and diagnostic clinic on the grounds of the old District Hospital/Killarney Community Hospital, along with a primary care centre for the town; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Cahill,

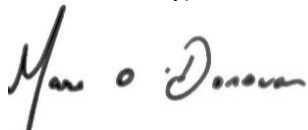
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE National Service Plan 2025 sets out Injury Units as a Government priority and includes revenue funding. We understand from HSE Capital and Estates that the Kerry Injury Unit is proposed to be located in the grounds of St Columbanus, Killarney Co. Kerry. St Columbanus facility is currently in use as a Community Nursing Unit. When the new Killarney CNU is completed (in the grounds of the old St Finan's hospital, Killarney), the residents and staff will transfer to same. Works will then commence on site to develop the Killarney Injury unit. It is currently anticipated that the works to the Killarney Local Injury Unit will be completed by Q4 2025.

The long-term Killarney Primary Care Centre is currently with Kerry County Council for approval for grant of planning. The HSE and Kerry County Council have a joint venture planning application, for the development of the Áras Phádraig site in Killarney town. Should the Primary Care Centre successfully attain grant of planning, it is anticipated that the said facility will be constructed within a three-year period. This will allow for the detailed design, tendering, construction and commissioning of this critical infrastructure. An interim Killarney Primary Care facility is proposed, i.e. to develop an interim Primary Care Centre in the grounds of the old St Finan's hospital, a capital submission has been made on same, and it has been approved subject to funding and prioritisation. Should this facility obtain approval to proceed, it is anticipated that this facility could be operational within a 10 to 12 month period, following the approval to proceed.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mari O'Donovan
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare