



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

21<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ 12289 17:** *To ask the Minister for Health the cost of a hospital bed; the fully absorbed cost of a hospital bed including staff, ancillary services and running costs; the capital costs associated with opening new beds; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Louise O'Reilly.*

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

The average daily running cost of an Inpatient hospital bed can be calculated from our annual costing cycle. This is €839 and represents all costs of a hospital including:-

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

The €839 is thus a fully absorbed cost but excludes capital and depreciation. The daily cost is calculated from costings submitted by hospitals under the Activity Based Funding programme and is based on 2015, the latest full year for which information is available. This cost is an average so it amalgamates all the different types of procedures carried out in the hospital – from the most simple and inexpensive, to the most complex and expensive.

If a new hospital was to be built with the average case mix of work and cost of the existing system, the annual daily running cost would be €839 per bed.

The capital cost of a new hospital build is estimated at €1million per bed.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 045 882559.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

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Sarah Anderson  
General Manager  
Corporate Finance  
[sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) Tel: 045 882559

