



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Fig 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

24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

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

**Re PQ 30204 18:** *To ask the Minister for Health the fully absorbed cost of a hospital bed; the fully absorbed cost of a hospital bed including staff, ancillary services and running costs; the cost per bed per day and per year -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 in-patient hospital bed can be calculated from our annual pricing cycle. This is €856 and represents the in-patient cost of a hospital including:

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

The €856 is a 'fully-absorbed' cost which means it includes running costs such as heating and lighting, servicing equipment etc. but excludes capital and depreciation and does not include other associated hospital costs such as Outpatient and Emergency Department costs. The daily cost is calculated from costings submitted by hospitals under the Activity Based Funding programme and is based on 2016, the latest full year for which information is available. This cost is a national average so it amalgamates all the different types of procedures carried out in hospitals nationally – 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 €856 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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