

*(Supplementary Order Paper)*

26

**DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Máirt, 12 Márta, 2019*  
*Tuesday, 12th March, 2019*

2 p.m.

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**I dtOSACH GNÓ PHOIBLÍ**  
**AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS**

*Fógraí i dtaobh leasú ar Thairiscint: Notices of Motions*

**16a.** “D’ainneoin aon ní in Ordú an 12 Nollaig 2017 ón Dáil inar leagadh amach an róta ar dá réir a chuirfear Ceisteanna chun comhaltaí den Rialtas, go ndéanfar Ceisteanna le haghaidh freagra ó bhéal, a leanfaidh iad sin is neasa a bheidh curtha síos don Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil, a chur síos d’Airí san ord sealadach seo a leanas:

An tAire Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige

An tAire Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt

agus air sin leanfar den ord a bunaíodh le hOrdú an 12 Nollaig 2017 le Ceisteanna chun an Aire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail.

That, notwithstanding anything in the Order of the Dáil of 12th December, 2017, setting out the rota in which Questions to members of the Government are to be asked, Questions for oral answer, following those next set down to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, shall be set down to Ministers in the following temporary sequence:

Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport

whereupon the sequence established by the Order of 12th December, 2017, shall continue with Questions to the Minister for Rural and Community Development.”

—*Seán Ó Cadhain, Aire Stáit ag Roinn an Taoisigh.*

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**GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA**  
**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

*Fógra i dtaobh Leasuithe ar Thairiscint: Notice of Amendments to Motion*

**215.** “That Dáil Éireann:

notes:

- the desire of all political parties, groups and members to improve and prioritise medical outcomes for the nation’s sick children;
- the current cost of the construction of the National Children’s Hospital stands at €1.433 billion and rising;

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- that this represents the most dramatic, fluid and unprecedented cost escalation level for any single health related project in the history of the State;
- that this escalation in costs is likely to be ongoing and represents significant challenges in the capacity to deliver urgently needed local health related or capital spending projects;
- that the urgent clinical necessity of co-locating a maternity hospital with the National Children’s Hospital is now seriously compromised if not fatally undermined due to site capacity issues;
- that fire safety and structural viability related concerns have been flagged around the decision to construct approximately 1,000 underground car parking spaces directly under the National Children’s Hospital;
- that the independent review of National Children’s Hospital project (2011) and the Review Group on the National Children’s Hospital (2012) stated that it would be 25 per cent less expensive to build on a greenfield site than on an urban site; and
- the decision by Government and the Health Service Executive (HSE) to commission a review by PricewaterhouseCoopers to establish the sequence of events in relation to the cost increases experienced by the project, establish what was known, when and by whom, and the reporting of relevant information from the project team to the relevant oversight and governance bodies including the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board and also its committees, the HSE and the Department of Health; and

calls on the Government to:

- immediately suspend construction of the National Children’s Hospital at the St James’s Hospital site pending the outcome of a time-limited independent investigation to assess the viability, cost and efficacy of re-tendering the project and transferring its location to a greenfield site with the capacity to include the co-location of a maternity hospital; and
- utilise any site preparation work already started at St. James’s Hospital to develop a satellite children’s urgent care centre, further adult services or any other services deemed most appropriate in the event that a recommendation for relocation is made following the outcome of the independent investigation.” — *Mattie McGrath, Michael Collins, Michael J. Healy-Rae, Noel Grealish, Mick Wallace, Clare Daly, Peter Fitzpatrick, Carol Nolan, Seamus Healy, Michael Fitzmaurice.*

*Leasuithe:*

*Amendments:*

1. To delete all words after “Dáil Éireann” and substitute the following:

“notes:

- the need to develop an appropriately sited, world class facility to care for children and young people from all over Ireland who are in need of specialist and complex care;
- that clinical considerations were paramount in the decision by the Government in 2012 to co-locate the new children’s hospital with St. James’s hospital in line with independent reviews affirming the importance of co-location with a major adult academic teaching hospital;
- the Government’s decision to re-develop the Coombe Women and Infants Hospital on the St. James’s campus in the context of achieving tri-location of adult, paediatric and maternity services on that campus as the optimum configuration to best support paediatrics, highly complex foetal and high-risk maternal medicine and chronic disease management in young people;

- the capacity of the site at St. James’s Hospital to accommodate the new children’s hospital and maternity hospital, and the incorporation into the design of the children’s hospital of the required operational links with both maternity and adult hospitals on the St. James’s Hospital campus;
- that St. James’s is the hospital best served by public transport in the country, including easy access to the M50 and Heuston Station and that safe underground car parking, part of the Fire Safety Certificate granted by Dublin City Council for the hospital, will be provided for 1,000 cars, including 675 dedicated to patients and families and 31 drop-off emergency spaces;
- the Government’s decision to develop satellite centres on the campuses of Tallaght University Hospital and Connolly Hospital, and that they will be easily accessible to local populations for the management of minor illness and injuries and attendance at outpatient and chronic disease clinics;
- that planning permission, unanimously granted by An Bord Pleanála in April 2016, supported the development of the hospital on the St. James’s site and the satellite centres at Tallaght and Connolly Hospitals;
- the vision of the new children’s hospital as a research-intensive academic healthcare institution and the potential to attract and retain specialised nursing and medical staff and health and social care professionals;
- the enactment of the Children’s Health Bill in 2018, and the establishment of Children’s Health Ireland as a statutory body to take over the services provided by the three existing Dublin paediatric hospitals, and run the new children’s hospital, outpatient and urgent care centres; and
- the link between the hospital and local and regional paediatric units through an integrated national clinical network aimed at delivering services to children as close to home as possible;

acknowledges:

- the desire of all political parties, groups and members to improve and prioritise medical outcomes for the nation’s sick children;
- the considerable increase in capital project costs over and above that notified to the Government in 2017, to a capital cost of €1.433 billion;
- the decision taken by the Government to proceed with the project, and the significant financial commitments given by the Government to complete the construction of the hospital and associated outpatient and urgent care centres;
- the commissioning of an independent review of the escalation in cost to identify the contributory factors and associated responsibilities so that any potential weaknesses are identified and comprehensively and speedily resolved in the interests of the successful completion of the project and the effective management of public funds, and to develop recommendations, if possible, which may identify any areas of potential cost savings or reductions;
- the significant progress made in the development of the new hospital at the St. James’s Hospital campus, and works relating to the Tallaght University Hospital and Connolly Hospital outpatient and urgent care centres, with the latter scheduled to open in July 2019; and
- the Government’s investment plans as outlined in Project Ireland 2040 and the National Development Plan 2018-2027, which provides for a substantially increased capital funding commitment of €10.9 billion for the public health service, which includes the substantial capital investment in 2019 of €642 million which will, in

addition to the new children's hospital, and the urgent care centres at Connolly and Tallaght Hospitals, continue significant capital investment in the health services; and

supports:

- the Government's priority to develop and deliver the new hospital on the St. James's campus and centres at Connolly and Tallaght Hospitals to support best clinical outcomes for children and young people in Ireland; and
  - the proposals recently announced by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform on a revised approach to major capital projects." —*An tAire Sláinte*.
2. To insert the following after "the co-location of a maternity hospital; and":
- “— ensure that the investigation is completed and a report is then presented within six weeks;” — *Brid Smith, Gino Kenny, Richard Boyd Barrett*.