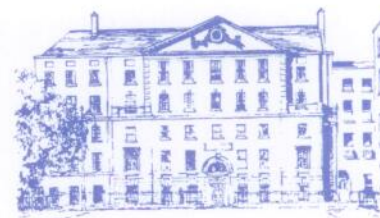




# An tOspidéal Náisiúnta Máithreachais The National Maternity Hospital

*Founded in 1894*

Sráid Holles, Baile Átha Cliath 2 • Holles Street, Dublin 2, D02 YH21  
Telephone: (01) 6373100. Fax: (01) 6766623. Web: [www.nmh.ie](http://www.nmh.ie)



Máistir/Master: Dr. Rhona Mahony

21 February 2017

Mr Jim Curran  
Head of HSE Estates  
Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital  
Dublin 2

Dear Jim,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, the Executive Management Team and my colleagues at the National Maternity Hospital, I am writing to confirm our full support for the planning application for the development of the new National Maternity Hospital on the St Vincent's University Hospital Campus to An Bord Pleánala.

Our primary goal is that women in Ireland will deliver their babies safely and with dignity. The National Maternity Hospital cares for over 10,000 pregnant women every year delivering over 9,000 babies annually. As such, it is one of the busiest Maternity Hospitals in Western Europe.

The relocation of the National Maternity Hospital to be colocated with an acute adult facility on the St. Vincent's University Hospital campus represents a very significant step in the realisation of this goal. The creation of a purpose built, state of the art Maternity Hospital colocated with a range of adult medical and surgical services will revolutionise maternity and gynaecological care in our community, within Ireland East Healthcare Group and nationally.

Given the very significant infrastructural challenges faced in our existing facility on Holles Street, the need to provide safe obstetric, neonatal and gynaecological care and the potential for catastrophic outcome in the realm of obstetrics, we believe this project is of vital regional and national importance. Whilst NMH, strives to maintain and upgrade the existing facilities at Holles Street, there is insufficient capacity within the current footprint of the hospital to facilitate the continued provision of maternity services in accordance with contemporary standards, regulations and government policy.

The underlying theme for the development of the new National Maternity Hospital on the St Vincent's University Hospital campus is one that facilitates excellence in obstetric care. Of vital importance is the ability to facilitate rapid access between the different departments as the majority of work in a maternity hospital is unplanned.

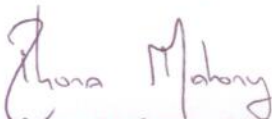
The current requirement to transfer critically ill women across the city for intensive care illustrates the urgency with which the delivery of a new colocated hospital is required.

Life threatening emergencies arise frequently and unpredictably in obstetrics and minutes count in the context of overall outcome. Colocation of NMH with all of the medical and surgical facilities in a tertiary general hospital setting will provide women with appropriate emergency care but also the ability to address a wide range of medical and surgical issues, bringing benefits to the services provided on the overall campus. A number of national and international reports have recommended the colocation model which facilitates a modern campus approach to Healthcare where a range of medical entities operate in close proximity to increase the breadth and depth of healthcare services concentrated together. This policy is endorsed in the current National Maternity strategy published in 2016.

We have welcomed the on-going and extensive process of engagement with the HSE, SVUH and the Design Team, which has resulted in a real sense of ownership of the design of this development. The plans are a source of pride and we are delighted that the project has reached this importance milestone of the planning application submission to An Bord Pleánala.

I wish you all the best in your application, and look forward to continuing to work with you on this development in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rhona Mahony'.

**Rhona Mahony, MD., FRCOG., FRCPI., FACOG(Hon)., EF  
Master**



Elm Park  
Dublin 4

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web: [www.stvincents.ie](http://www.stvincents.ie)

14<sup>th</sup> February 2017.



Mr. Jim Curran,  
Head of HSE Estates,  
Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital,  
Lower Grand Canal Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Mr. Curran,

I write to assure you of St. Vincent's Healthcare Group and its Shareholders support of the application by the Health Service Executive to An Bord Pleánala in respect of the development of the new National Maternity Hospital on the St. Vincent's University Hospital campus.

St. Vincent's Healthcare Group unreservedly supports the planning application for the new National Maternity Hospital as it represents the opportunity to develop a campus which meets the most acute patient needs through the co-located delivery of adult, women and infant's clinical services. With our large and well serviced site, our range of national, super-regional and local service specialities, our record of excellence in service delivery, education, research and innovation, St. Vincent's campus at Elm Park is ideally placed to accommodate the current and future development of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Neonatal services.

In anticipation of An Bord Pleánala approving the plans being submitted, SVHG look forward to continuing to work with the HSE and NMH on the development into the future.

Yours sincerely,

**James Menton**  
Chair/SVHG

**Mr. James Menton**  
*Chairman*

Sr. Mary Benton

Dr. David Brophy

Mr. John Compton

Mr. Gerard Flood

Prof. Michael Keane

Mr. Myles Lee

Ms. Sharen McCabe

Prof. Patrick Murray

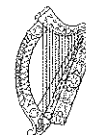
Mr. Frank O'Riordan

Sr. Agnes Reynolds

Mr. William Shannon



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017

Mr Jim Curran  
HSE Head of Estates  
Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital,  
Lower Grand Canal Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: The redevelopment of the National Maternity Hospital at St Vincent's University  
Hospital Campus**

Dear Jim,

The Department of Health fully supports the submission of the planning application for the new National Maternity Hospital (NMH) on the St Vincent's University Hospital campus.

Government policy aims to ensure that all maternity units/hospitals are co-located with an adult acute hospital. The co-location of maternity and adult acute services ensures that women have immediate access, on-site, to a full range of medical, surgical and clinical support services. The availability of these services helps ensure the delivery of an optimum, safe service, particularly for high risk mothers and babies.

I can confirm that the redevelopment of the NMH is a priority for this Government, the Minister and the Department of Health. Indeed, the priority accorded to this capital project by Government is reflected in both the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan 2016 – 2021 and this Department's Statement of Strategy 2016 – 2019.

The relocated maternity hospital will provide maternity, gynaecology and neonatal services to the women and infants in the Ireland East Hospital Group, replacing the existing outdated facilities at Holles Street. Of course, as a major national tertiary referral centre for the specialties of obstetrics, gynaecology and neonatology, the hospital also cares for mothers and infants referred from other maternity hospitals and units across the country.

The need to provide a new NMH was underlined in the HIQA Report on the hospital which was published in February 2016. That report noted the fundamental challenges posed by the constraints of the current site, highlighted infrastructural deficits and the fact that the current hospital is insufficient for the level of activity for which it caters.

Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge

<b>An Roinn Sláinte</b>	<b>Department of Health</b>
Teach Haicín	Hawkins House
Baile Átha Cliath	Dublin
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I would also like to draw your attention to the National Maternity Strategy - *Creating a Better Future Together*, which represents the Government's plan for the development of our maternity services. The vision articulated in the Strategy is an Ireland where women have access to safe, high quality maternity care in a setting most appropriate to their needs.

The development of the NMH at St Vincent's University Hospital Campus is essential to support this objective through the provision of a modern maternity, gynaecology and neonatology healthcare facility. The project design reflects the Strategy in terms of the provision of high and low intensity birth suites, and as such, is viewed as the flagship project which will provide the modern physical infrastructure required to enable full implementation of the Strategy.

I am aware that the Project Board, Project Team and Design Team have worked tirelessly to bring the project to this point. I would like to take this opportunity to commend all parties on the very high quality of the design for the new hospital. I welcome the extensive and detailed stakeholder engagement process which was undertaken, and which has informed the design.

The successful delivery of the new hospital is essential to support the provision of modern healthcare facilities for the women and infants of Ireland East and beyond, and is in line with Government policy as articulated in the National Maternity Strategy. In that regard, the submission of a planning application to An Bord Pleanala represents a very significant step forward and one that has the full support of this Department.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jim Breslin', written over a horizontal line.

Jim Breslin  
Secretary General



**MD/JB**

24<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Mr Jim Curran  
Head of HSE Estates  
Sir Patrick Dunn's Hospital  
Dublin 2

Dear Jim,

I am writing on behalf of the Ireland East Hospital Group to support the planning application for the proposed development of the new National Maternity Hospital on the St. Vincent's University Hospital campus.

The building of a new, state of the art maternity hospital is an exciting development which will benefit the population served by The National Maternity Hospital for generations to come. It is a particularly important development given the requirement to relocate the hospital from the current site on Holles Street, which can no longer meet the needs of c.9,500 mothers who give birth there each year, and all the neonatal care that is provided.

The colocation of The National Maternity Hospital on an adult, academic teaching hospital (St Vincent's University Hospital) provides an integrated model of care that will ensure that mothers can access the best possible care during and immediately after their pregnancy and is in line with international best practice.

The Ireland East Hospital Group strongly supports this initiative, which is one of the core strategic objectives of the Group, in providing access to integrated care for all population we serve.

I wish you all the best in your application, and look forward to continuing to work with you on this development in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Day', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

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**MARY DAY**  
**CEO**



UCD School of Medicine  
and Medical Science

Scoil an Leighis agus  
Eolaíocht and Leighis UCD

UCD Centre for Human Reproduction  
Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital  
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An tIonad um Atáirgeadh Daonna  
Ospideal Ollscoile Ban agus  
Naíonán an Chuim  
Baile Átha Cliath

Mr Jim Curran  
Head of HSE Estates,  
Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital,  
Dublin 2.

20 February 2017

Dear Jim,

I wish to express the full support of the National Clinical Programme for Obstetrics and Gynaecology for the planning application being submitted to An Bord Pleanála in respect of the development of the new National Maternity Hospital on the St Vincent's University Hospital Campus.

The proposed colocation of the National Maternity Hospital alongside St Vincent's University Hospital constitutes a long awaited, landmark development for publicly-funded maternity services in Ireland.

The overarching aim of the Clinical Programme is, and has always been, to improve choices in women's healthcare and it is our view that this development is the physical embodiment of this ethos.

As a result, we are very clear that the development of the new maternity hospital on the same site as the adult hospital will directly improve the services provided for not only women and infants, but all patients on the campus.

On behalf of the Programme, I wish you and your team every success in the application and look forward to a successful outcome.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Professor Michael Turner  
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Director, UCD Centre for Human Reproduction  
Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital