

Press Release

Future of Ketteler hospital secured: GRC Offenbach to become new operator – PLUTA restructuring experts provide support during debtor-in-possession proceedings

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Area: Restructuring

The future of the Ketteler hospital in Offenbach has been secured: Deutsche Rote Kreuz Kreisverband Offenbach e.V., the German Red Cross (GRC) district association in Offenbach, will take over as operator of the hospital. This will safeguard the jobs of the more than 900 employees over the long term as well as the continued operation of all of the medical departments with the exception of the obstetrics unit, which will close on 30 June 2026 (as previously communicated). A corresponding investor agreement has already been signed. The transaction is still subject to the customary conditions of the ongoing insolvency plan proceedings and will be closed later this year.

“The Ketteler hospital is a key provider of healthcare in Offenbach and the region,” said Mr Doru Somesan, managing director of the GRC’s Offenbach district association. “By acquiring the hospital and integrating it into our existing network, with our first responders, care facilities and many other offerings, we are making a major contribution to preserving high-quality local medical

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About PLUTA

PLUTA assists companies facing legal and financial challenges. The firm provides support for reorganisations and transactions and helps companies to restructure and maintain their operations in crisis and insolvency situations. If necessary, PLUTA restructuring experts may also assume leadership roles in other businesses. Since the company was founded in 1982, PLUTA has constantly grown and today has a staff of approximately 500 employees in Germany, Spain and Italy. More than 290 business and management experts, attorneys, business lawyers, tax consultants, public auditors, certified accountants, economists, banking and bookkeeping experts, engineers and insolvency administration specialists, many with multiple qualifications, ensure practicable and economically sound solutions. PLUTA is one of the top restructuring companies, as demonstrated by rankings and awards from INDat, JUVE, The Legal 500, Who’s Who Legal, brand eins, Wirtschaftswoche and Focus. Further information is available at www.pluta.net.

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services. Together with the staff, we want to implement a viable long-term concept for the people of this city and district.”

Sustainable way forward

“The agreement gives the Ketteler hospital a sustainable way forward,” said Mr Dietmar Eine, who will remain chief restructuring officer for the hospital until the acquisition transaction is closed. “We have held good discussions aimed at achieving a lasting follow-up solution. The GRC’s Offenbach district association wants to ensure the long-term viability of the hospital site, maintain reliable continuity of medical care and integrate the facility into a strong regional care network. The insolvency plan is already being finalised and we expect the proceedings to be concluded in the near future. Patient care remains unchanged in the meantime, and all specialist medical departments will continue to operate, except for obstetrics.”

The solution will now be legally constituted within the framework of an insolvency plan. The plan is expected to be ready in May and will then be submitted to the court. Following this, the creditors will have to vote on the insolvency plan in a discussion and voting meeting. If the plan is approved by a majority of the creditors, the company will be restructured through debt relief. Deutsche Rote Kreuz Kreisverband Offenbach e.V. will then be able to become the new owner and the hospital will continue operating seamlessly. The Ketteler hospital will remain not-for-profit going forward. An employee meeting was already held on Tuesday afternoon. During this, those in



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charge updated the employees on the situation and shared the welcome news with them.

Well-known beyond the Offenbach region

The agreement reached is a very positive outcome, and not just for the employees. The Ketteler hospital has been operating for a long time. From its beginnings in outpatient care, the Krankenhaus Josefsheim hospital was established in 1905. This was replaced by a new facility on Lichtenplattenweg in 1958. Today, Ketteler Krankenhaus gemeinnützige GmbH runs a modern hospital that specialises in providing surgical, internal medicine, gynaecological and geriatric care. The hospital is part of a care network for the Frankfurt/Offenbach region. It holds KTQ (Cooperation for Transparency and Quality in Healthcare) certification and has been awarded the German Palliative Seal. The hospital has 310 beds. Its centre for the treatment of colorectal and liver tumours (certified by the German Cancer Society) and its breast cancer centre are well-known in the region and beyond. As a teaching hospital for Goethe University Frankfurt, the Ketteler hospital is involved in the practical training of students of human medicine and participates in cutting-edge medical research.

“I am really excited to work with our new operator going forward,” said managing director Ms Angelika Heckenthaler. “Judging by our initial discussions, this collaboration will be very productive and constructive. I also hope that this will ensure the Ketteler hospital’s ethos – compassion eases suffering – lives on.”



Philipp Meyer

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Master of Laws (LL.M.)



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Restructuring experts assisting the hospital

The hospital initiated in-court restructuring proceedings as a debtor in possession in autumn 2025 to equip itself for the future. The aim of the proceedings has been to ensure the hospital's long-term financial stability and sustainably improve the provision of medical services in Offenbach. Restructuring experts Mr Philip Konen and Dr Christian Kaufmann from PLUTA Rechtsanwalts GmbH have supported management since then in their capacity as general agents for the hospital. The PLUTA team further comprises attorneys Mr Philipp Meyer, Mr Sebastian Weyland and Mr Alexander Bortfeldt as well as Mr Sven Arnstadt. Business management expert Mr Ludwig Stern and business lawyer Ms Celine Plaschke from PLUTA Management GmbH have also been providing support. At the start of the proceedings, experienced hospital manager and restructuring expert Mr Dietmar Eine from Hospital Management Group GmbH joined the management team. The court appointed attorney Dr Lason Gutsche from law firm HGW Rechtsanwälte as insolvency monitor and he has been overseeing the proceedings in the interests of the creditors.

The PLUTA team will work with the insolvency monitor to finalise the insolvency plan for the company and submit it to the court in the coming weeks so that the solution can be implemented with legal effect. PLUTA attorney Mr Philip Konen said, "The Ketteler hospital has an important regional function – and this outcome ensures that will remain the case. This is great news for the dedicated staff supporting patients day after day. The priority now is to

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implement the solution in a legally secure way.”

Insolvency monitor Dr Lason Gutsche added, “This solution ensures the continued existence of this regionally important hospital. That was the clear aim – and it is now within reach. This will also be the best possible outcome for the creditors.”

Patient care ensured at all times

Despite the insolvency application, patient care has still been maintained in recent months and all of the hospital’s departments have remained fully functional. All courses of treatment and operations have been going ahead as usual. The hospital will continue to offer its comprehensive range of services in the future. As previously communicated in February, the Ketteler hospital will reorganise its women’s clinic. Its obstetrics unit will close on 30 June 2026. The gynaecology department is not affected by this change and remains highly important. Going forward, the department will concentrate on gynaecological care with a focus on urogynaecology, oncological gynaecology and the breast care centre, which is one of the longest-established facilities of its kind in Germany.

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