

CC/MQ/MMcM

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

09th December 2020

Mr Maurice Quinlivan TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 42435/20

*** To ask the Minister for Health if the second and third phases of the opening of the 60-bed unit at University Hospital Limerick will be open and operational on schedule; and if all necessary staff nurses, consultants and support staff will be available to operate this new unit. -Maurice Quinlivan**

Dear Deputy Quinlivan,

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.

The 60-Bed Block comprises four stories, with three inpatient wards of 20 en-suite single rooms over a basement level. The first of these wards opened on November 23rd; the second ward will open on December 14th 2020 and the third on January 4th 2021.

The new ward block will provide modern, single-room inpatient accommodation. As well as an improved experience for patients in terms of comfort, privacy and dignity; it will better allow us to isolate patients and improve infection prevention and control capabilities. The project is also a significant step in addressing the underlying bed capacity shortages in the MidWest which are acknowledged by all parties.

The phased opening of the new 60-Bed Block follows the completion earlier this year of two separate rapid-build projects delivered under the Government National Action Plan in Response to Covid-19 which provided an additional 38 inpatient beds on site at UHL.

The projected opening timeline means 78 single rooms will be added by the end of this year and a further 20 beds will be added early in January 2021.



Working together, caring for you

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Bóthar Naomh Neasáin, Tuar an Daill, Luimneach V94 F858
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University Hospital Limerick,
St. Nessian's Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick V94 F858
Tel: 061 301111 Fax: 061 301165

A recruitment campaign has been undertaken to support the opening of the new capacity and agreement has been reached with trade unions over the phased opening.

I trust this clarifies the position. Please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colette Cowan', written over a horizontal line.

Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals Group



University Hospital Limerick is a member of **UL Hospitals Group** which also comprises: Nenagh Hospital, Ennis Hospital, Croom Orthopaedic Hospital, University Maternity Hospital Limerick and St. John's Hospital (voluntary).