

CC/ROD/MC

Email: [pgmidwestacute@hse.ie](mailto:pgmidwestacute@hse.ie)

01<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Mr Richard O'Donoghue TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 8820/22

**\* To ask the Minister for Health if discussions are expected to take place regarding an increase in the staffing levels for paediatric epilepsy services at University Hospital Limerick to ensure children receive continued care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard O'Donoghue**

Dear Deputy O'Donoghue,

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.

I have been in contact with the relevant staff and I have been informed that UL Hospitals Group has one Paediatric Neurologist post approved under the National Consultant Appointments Advisory Committee. This post was advertised in 2020 and 2021 and a Locum Paediatric Neurologist post was also advertised, however, we were unable to fill these posts with suitable candidates.

A Specific Purpose Contract with a private Paediatric Neurologist was recently agreed to provide a regular outpatient paediatric neurology clinic at University Hospital Limerick for children with complex neurology needs. In addition, there are plans in place to advertise our vacant post again in the near future.

All EEGs carried out for paediatric patients are currently being interpreted by a Consultant Neurophysiologist from Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street.

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

Yours sincerely,



**Prof Colette Cowan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**UL Hospitals Group**