



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
HSE Offices, Lacken
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4th August 2022

Michael Lowry
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 40299/22

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the difficulty since May 2022 that is being experienced in securing a locum doctor who will provide full-time cover at the minor injuries' unit in Our Lady's Hospital Cashel; if he will provide the number of days since May 2022 until July that the unit was fully operational with a locum doctor in attendance in tabular form; if he intends to address this ongoing issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Lowry

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The Minor Injury Unit (MIU) was established in January 2007 and is located on the grounds of Our Lady's Campus Cashel and is approximately 15 miles from the nearest Emergency Department in Tipperary University Hospital.

The MIU operates from 9.00am to 5.00pm daily from Monday to Friday with closure for lunch. Approximately 80% of clients self-refer to the MIU, the remainder being referrals by GPs. On average 83 clients use this service weekly.

HSE South East Community Healthcare remains committed to the provision and development of the MIU service in Cashel. There were challenges in securing full time medical cover for the months of May through to July 2022, however full time medical cover has been secured from the beginning of August onwards.

The following table outlines the number of days the MIU was fully operational from May 2022 to present

Month	Number of Days MIU Fully Operational
May	14 out of 22
June	14 out of 21
July	14 out of 21
August	Full time cover restored

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



*Anna-Marie Lanigan,
Head of Service Primary Care,
Assistant National Director,
South East Community Healthcare*