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CC/MQ/MC

19th October 2022

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

RE: PQ 51760/11

To ask the Minister for Health when a paediatric neurologist will be assigned to University Hospital Limerick, appreciating that the last paediatric neurologist left UHL in December 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -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.

We have one paediatric neurologist post approved under the National Consultant Appointments Advisory Committee. This post was advertised in 2020 and 2021 and we continue to look to fill it in a challenging international environment.

We are doing all in our power to ensure that this gap is filled. As an interim measure, we are in the process of contracting a private consultant paediatric neurologist to provide outpatient paediatric neurology clinics once every 6 weeks at UHL for children with complex neurology needs, this initiative will commence in November 2022.

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