

CC/NC/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

07th October 2022

Mr Niall Collins TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 46622/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 669 of 24 May 2022, the status of the current staffing levels for paediatric epilepsy services at University Hospital Limerick; the current vacancies which exist in the service; the efforts that are being undertaken to address these; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Minister Collins

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.

As you are aware, we have one paediatric neurologist post approved under the National Consultant Appointments Advisory Committee. This post has been advertised 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