

CC/JC/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

20th March 2023

Mr Joe Carey TD,
Dàil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 10063/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he is confident that the emergency department at UHL could successfully deal with a high volume trauma event at Shannon Airport; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Carey

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.

UL Hospitals Group has a Major Emergency Plan in place which sets out how the Group would deal with an emergency event such as a major trauma at Shannon Airport.

Desktop exercises have been carried out in the Emergency Department at University Hospital Limerick and by the Executive Management Team to ensure that staff are aware of the processes in place in the event of a major emergency taking place. In addition, major emergency training/awareness sessions are scheduled for the remainder of 2023 for staff. A weekly meeting is also held in the Emergency Department regarding major emergency planning, this meeting is attended by emergency medicine physicians, nurses and other clinical and admin staff.

There is also an Area 3 Emergency Plan which covers Clare, Limerick and North Tipperary. The Area 3 Emergency Plan group incorporates UL Hospitals Group and Community Healthcare Mid-West. The Area 3 Crisis Management Team is a strategic group made up of senior managers from all HSE functions and services.

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