

CC/VAW/MC

Email: pgmidwestacute@hse.ie

07th February 2023

Ms Violet-Anne Wynne TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 3255/23

To ask the Minister for Health the way that he intends to address the shortfall requiring an additional seven emergency consultant positions at University Hospital Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Violet-Anne Wynne

Dear Deputy Wynne

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 am pleased to let you know that two additional ED Consultants were approved under the Winter Plan 2022-2023. These posts have been filled on a temporary basis, recruitment campaigns will take place in the near future to fill these posts on a permanent basis. In addition, a review of NCHD resources has been completed and a submission for a further 10 SHOs and 10 Registrars was made nationally. Approval has been received to proceed and nine of these staff took up post in January 2023.

Separately, Safer Staffing levels for ED nursing staff have been reviewed and approval has been received nationally to recruit additional resources. A number of nursing staff have commenced within the ED. Additional nursing resources to fully implement Safer Staffing in our ED will commence taking up post from May 2023.

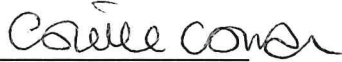
As you are aware, the Deloitte Report on Patient Flow at UL Hospitals Group, published on September 30th 2022, sets out clearly how the group is under-resourced in terms of bed capacity and staffing resources.

The report can be read in full here: <https://healthservice.hse.ie/filelibrary/ulh/ul-hospital-group-patient-flow-report.pdf>

The recruitment of additional consultants is a priority for UL Hospitals Group. Amid what all stakeholders acknowledge is a challenging recruitment environment, we appointed 39 consultants across a range of disciplines last year.

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