



**IC/CS/MC**

**Email: [pqmidwestacute@hse.ie](mailto:pqmidwestacute@hse.ie)**

31<sup>st</sup> July 2025

Mr Conor Sheehan TD  
Dàil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 33524/25**

Dear Deputy Sheehan,

I refer to your correspondence dated 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

University Hospital Limerick has a cohort of 12.5 WTE Consultants in Emergency Medicine. In addition there are 3 WTE Consultants in Paediatric Emergency Medicine.

Of these, typically six to eight consultants are rostered for duty in the ED during regular weekday working hours, 8am-5pm. After 5pm, there are at least two consultants on duty up to 8pm. Consultants on the new public only consultant contract (POCC) work until 10pm when rostered and this is the case on 2-3 evenings per week

Consultants are also rostered to work shifts between 8am and 6pm on Saturdays and 8am-1pm on Sundays. All new consultants appointed will come in on the POCC and this will enhance our capacity to roster more senior decision-makers in the late evening and at weekends. All consultants in Emergency Medicine in UHL are working to their contractual clinical hours.

Consultants in emergency medicine are supported by 47 approved non-consultant hospital doctors at various grades. An increase of 21 NCHDs in our ED since 2023 has increased registrar cover out-of-hours.

Please see in the table below the number of Consultants in Emergency Medicine who were on duty in the ED between 8pm and 8am during the week commencing June 9<sup>th</sup>. A Consultant in Emergency Medicine is on call every night and at weekends.

Day	8pm-10pm	10pm-8am
Monday	On Call X 1	On- Call x 1
Tuesday	1	On- Call x 1
Wednesday	1	On- Call x 1
Thursday	On- Call x 1	On- Call x 1
Friday	On- Call x 1	On- Call x 1



Saturday	On- Call x 1	On- Call x 1
Sunday	On- Call x 1	On- Call x 1

It should be noted that ED Consultants frequently work later than their rostered hours, particularly evenings.

I trust this clarifies the position. Please contact me if you have any further queries.

Kind Regards,

---

**IAN CARTER**  
**CEO Midwest Acute and Older People Services**  
**HSE Mid West**