

Anne O' Connor
Chief Operating Officer
Health Service Executive
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09 June 2022

Ref: NS_0003

Dear Anne

Re: Severe ED Crowding at University Hospital Limerick, and service capacity in the Midwest

Thank you for your letter dated 2nd June related to the above matter. I note the response provided, and I also acknowledge that you have stated that the correspondence represented an interim response to issues I have raised with you - pending completion of other work to fully evaluate the situation in Limerick with a view to sustainable improvement over time.

Given that further work is ongoing, and noting that I understand that you are due to leave your position for another role outside of the HSE in the coming weeks, HIQA would be keen to meet with you and colleagues and ensure that we have a clear understanding of your appraisal of the current situation and future plans while the opportunity to do so still exists. Furthermore, we would also be keen to discuss any further developments that might inform a final response to the queries I raised with you, not least in the context of the enhanced role that community services - inclusive of General Practice - might play in a future model of service delivery in the region to alleviate acute hospital overcrowding.

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To that end, I would be grateful if your office could liaise with my colleague Eithne McCann - emccann@hiqa.ie , to arrange for suitable dates for us to meet remotely on the week commencing 20th June. In the intervening period, HIQA will progress to publication of the report from our inspection on 17th June. A final copy of the report will be provided to the HSE for review 5 days in advance of publication as is our standard approach.

Yours sincerely



SEAN EGAN
Director of Healthcare Regulation

CC: Liam Woods, National Director Acute Operations, HSE

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