



Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Oibríochtaí

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22nd August 2023

Ms. Susan Sinclair
Administrative Officer, LUPT Accounts and Central Management Unit,
Land Use Planning and Transportation Department
South Dublin County Council, County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Re: Item 78924 May 2023 Lucan Palmerstown North Clondalkin ACM

Dear Ms. Sinclair,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence to the HSE of the 8th June 2023 on behalf of the Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin Area Committee regarding multi-annual planning for services related to Urgent and Emergency Care which has been referred to me to respond to you directly. I apologise for the delay in responding and any inconvenience caused.

The HSE recognises the need to move away from the current, short-term annual planning approach towards a multi-annual approach to improve our Urgent and Emergency Care services on an incremental and sustained basis to consistently meet the needs of service users. To that end a National 3-year Urgent and Emergency Care Plan and local integrated hospital and community plans are being developed which aim to bring about this improvement through the phased delivery of priority service improvement initiatives within our front line service and with longer-term programmes delivering additional beds, staffing, improved technology and other infrastructure.


The plan is part of a new Urgent and Emergency Care Programme that is following best practice in health service and system improvement; is evidence-based; co-created with frontline teams, national expertise and service user experience; sets out a common vision for integrated urgent and emergency care; and includes clear actions, targets and outcomes at local and national levels across acute and community services. The National Plan is nearing completion and will be subject to approval and ratification through the Department of Health and Government in due course. Implementation of the national and local plans will commence from January 2024.

GP access remains a challenge and Government have approved an increase of the training places to increase the workforce. Additional supports are also being provided to GP practices, recognising that these new GPs will take time to come through the GP training scheme.

Notwithstanding this Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) and CHO 7, who have responsibility for community services in much of your local authority area, continue to work to improve services. In addition, they are developing a local plan to support improvement in their area.

Local health services, including TUH and CHO7, provide regular updates at the regional forum on Urgent and Emergency Care and I am sure would be happy to brief councillors at the regional forum on those plans.

Yours sincerely,


Damien McCallion
Chief Operations Officer