

**CC/MB/MC**

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

17<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Mr Martin Browne TD,  
Dàil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 30651/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health if a commitment to provide MAU services in Nenagh on a 24/7 basis no longer stands; if so, the reasons for this; the measures he is taking to increase the opening hours of the medical assessment unit in Nenagh; the manner in which staffing would be procured; if he will address the shortcomings in the mid-west that the lack of such a service on a 24/7 basis will result in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne**

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.

We are working with all stakeholders on planning for the continued expansion of our MAU services in Ennis, Nenagh and St John's hospital, including a further extension of opening hours.

A scoping exercise has been completed to identify the resource requirement underpinning options to 1) extend opening hours till midnight; or 2) implement a 24/7 model.

The required staffing resources are now being finalised for costing. Key stakeholders have identified a number of challenges including staffing and lab provision.

All three Mid West MAUs are currently open from 8am-8pm. It is envisaged that this will be extended to 16 hours per day from 8am to midnight by the end of Q3 2024.

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

**Yours sincerely,**



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**Ms Colette Cowan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**UL Hospitals Group**