

**CC/VAW/MC**

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

29<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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

**PQ 33059/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health given that the six hospitals in the UHL group function as one hospital system, if there are any plans for a shuttle bus or equivalent between the hospitals for patient use; 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.

The HSE has no statutory obligation to provide patient transport, other than emergency transport. Patients must arrange transportation to hospital and OPD appointments, using private or scheduled public transport.

Transport is paid for in-centre dialysis patients with journeys from destinations within the Hospitals Group's catchment area in counties Clare, Limerick and Tipperary. This is in line with hospitals around the country.

In addition, UL Hospitals Group, which operates as a single health system has an inter-hospital transfer system for helping to ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right stage of their hospital journey.

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**