

Tracey Conroy  
Chair NPHET Acute Hospital Preparedness Subgroup  
Assistant Secretary  
Acute Hospital Policy Division  
Department of Health

07 May 2020

**Re: HIQA IPC COVID-19 Assessment of Acute Hospitals for NPHET**

Dear Tracey

Further to our meeting earlier relating to the above matter. Since issuance of this report to NPHET, HIQA have received correspondence from the HSE which provides helpful feedback and further clarification in relation to certain aspects of the report.

Given the shortened timeframes requested for the completion of this work, there was an inability for HIQA to avail of our normal processes around such feedback with the HSE. Consequently it is proposed that the report be refined on foot of this more recent correspondence, so that the report version accompanying this letter be regarded the final version of this document.

It should be noted in the first instance that on review of the feedback provided by the HSE, HIQA does not believe that any change to the overarching judgements contained in section 5 of the report are required. However the following feedback has been accepted and is updated in the final version of the report

- Reference to specialist staffing level having remained static since 2015 at the University of Limerick Hospital Group on page 10 has been removed

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- A footnote has been added to Appendix 3 providing a further update relating to the accreditation of laboratory services at University Hospital Limerick
- Appendix 4 has been corrected relating to staffing numbers, and calculation of overall numbers of specialist staff relative to intended maximal critical care capacity
- Further detail has been added relating to the additional quantum of CPE screens taken per annum over time nationally.

I would be grateful therefore if this updated version of the report be regarded as the final version of this document and resubmitted to NPHE as such.

Should you require any further clarification in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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**Phelim Quinn**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

CC: Liam Woods, National Director of Acute Operations, HSE

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