



We are calling for decision makers at the Western Trust and Department of Health to meaningfully engage with the people of Fermanagh, hospital campaigners, elected politicians the business and sporting community. The roadmap produced by Save Our Acute Services (SOAS) provides the vision that the Health Minister has demanded alongside firm evidence of the need for SWAH to become a Rural Area Hospital.

As the sporting club positioned closest to the SWAH and with members from across the entire county, our members and their families have been adversely impacted by the removal of emergency general surgery from the SWAH. We strongly object to this and believe that the people of Fermanagh deserve unfailing healthcare at a local level.

As just one club amongst a sustainable sporting community in Fermanagh we know the value of economic growth and the importance of accessible emergency healthcare. Enniskillen Rugby Football club urges immediate action to address the inadequate emergency surgical provision at the South West Acute Hospital (SWAH). The transfer of patients to Altnagelvin Hospital presents unacceptable risks, compounded by insufficient HSC capacity and a fragile ambulance service.

Throughout 2024/25, the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service consistently failed to meet critical response time targets, including for life-threatening emergencies. These concerns are echoed by healthcare professionals, regulators, trade unions, and local authorities.



Enniskillen Rugby Football Club is uniquely positioned as the only Rugby club in County Fermanagh. We are privileged to represent all areas of our county and with a membership that extends from minis to boys and girls youth and disability squads and senior men's and women's teams and to the community of supporters and non-playing members.

We join voices across the region in calling for a sustainable, locally delivered model of emergency care and the allocation of the SWAH as a Rural Area Hospital. Our members and their families deserve equal access to safe and timely medical services.

For details on SOAS visit: <https://saveouracuteservices.org>

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