

THE IRISH **Sun** SAYS

Health boost

AROUND one million people in Ireland do not have a medical card or access to private health insurance.

They are in a no-man's land when it comes to accessing care, left at the mercy of the public system and long waiting lists, priced out of private care.

There are many complex factors contributing to the various crises being endured at the moment and for the past few decades. The huge numbers on trolleys is a symptom of that.

Anything that can help needs to be considered as many hospitals are now clearly too overcrowded to be safe for patients or the people working there.

Letsbuyhealthcare is providing that million-person cohort access to private treatment for those without insurance.

What is interesting is that doctors involved say they can provide services quickly and efficiently, which could eat into the lengthy waiting lists.

By performing the less serious procedures in local community settings they can keep patients out of hospitals when they don't need to be there.

It has a knock-on effect, including having fewer people on trolleys and letting hospitals work inside capacity.

It would be interesting to see as the service grows just what sort of impact it could have on those numbers which are such a burden to the nation's health.

The system needs all the help it can get.