25th March 2019

Deputy Michael Fitzmaurice,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 10455/19:
To ask the Minister for Health if an assurance will be given that HSE contracts (details supplied) are not in imminent danger of collapse due to payment or other difficulties known to him or the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Details supplied: National Contact for the Provision of Disposable Continence Products, Ref HSE 7103; and the National Contract for the Storage and Distribution of Disposable Continence Products, Ref HSE 9910.
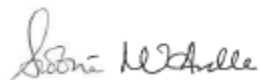
-Michael Fitzmaurice

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Dear Deputy Fitzmaurice,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response.

We are aware that the provision of the home delivery of incontinence wear products has not achieved the high standard we aim to provide. We are working closely with our contracted delivery partners to ensure that the problems experienced by some service users are addressed as a matter of priority. A governance structure has been put in place to oversee this service end-to-end - both the contract for supply of incontinence wear and the bridging contract for storage and distribution of these products to service users in their homes and to centres across the country. Governance arrangements have also been enhanced in each Community Healthcare Organisation to ensure that the supply chain operates effectively and efficiently in each local area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations