

27<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**PQ 21037/19 To ask the Minister for Health the protocols and procedures in place at the laundry service in University Hospital Galway particularly regarding infection control; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Catherine Connolly**

Dear Deputy Connolly

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you directly in the context of the request for information referenced above, the following outlines the situation.

GUH, PUH & RUH Infection Control & Prevention Guidelines on Decontamination gives details of the processes involved in dealing with soiled linen, garments etc. This includes the transport, handling, categorisation and segregation of Linen.

Numerous standard operating practices are in place specifically in relation to the operation of equipment within the Laundry.

In addition, the programs on all washing machines contain a disinfection phase that ensures that the adequate times and temperatures are met so as to ensure that the laundry items are fully disinfected and safe to use after each wash process.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely



Chris Kane  
General Manager  
Galway University Hospitals