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18<sup>th</sup>. October 2019

Deputy Sean Haughey TD Dail Eireann Kildare Street Dublin 1

PQ Number: 40797/19 To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure that the HSE continues to provide the flu vaccination jab free of charge to home carer's employed directly or indirectly by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Haughey,

The above PQ has been sent to me to respond directly to you on same.

The HSE provides the flu vaccine free of charge to all employees on an annual basis. Access to the vaccine is via a comprehensive and national network of flu vaccination clinics that are held throughout the flu season. All organisations providing clinical staff to the HSE are expected to provide flu vaccinations for their staff for the safety of patients and employees alike. In addition provisions have been made by the HSE for outside agencies to adopt the policies of the HSE to set up peer vaccination programmes for their staff. Flu vaccines are also available to all, via a network of pharmacies and general practice throughout the country.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

DR. KEVIN KELLEHER, FFPHM, FFPHMI ASSISTANT NATIONAL DIRECTOR –PUBLIC HEALTH/CHILD HEALTH – STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSFORMATION Medical registration number 19719