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17th. July 2020

Deputy Matt Carthy TD Dail Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 1

PQ 14474/20: To ask the Minister for Health if Covid-19 specific advice, guidance or standards were provided to commercial launderettes or dry cleaners; if so, if he will provide copy of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -

Dear Deputy Carthy,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my Department for direct response to you on same.

No specific advice, guidance or standards was given to launderettes or dry cleaners. Guidance was put up on the HPSC website in relation to managing covid 19 infection at home and there was a section in that specific to laundry as per below.

 $\underline{https://www.hpsc.ie/az/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/factsheetsandresources/Managing \% 20a\% 20 COVID -19\% 20 in fection \% 20 at \% 20 home.pdf.$

Extract - Laundry

Wash laundry at the highest temperature that the material can stand. If you have household or rubber gloves you can wear them when handling dirty laundry. Hold laundry items away from yourself. Wash your hands after handling dirty laundry, whether you used gloves or not. Do not send laundry to a laundrette.

I trust this information will be 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