

28<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Deputy Neale Richmond  
Dáil Éireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 17606/20**

**Question: “To ask the Minister for Health the number of cases identified with the help of the Covid-19 tracker application; the number of contacts traced through the application; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”.**

Dear Deputy Richmond,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

I wish to advise that at this stage it is not possible to provide figures on the number of people who receive close contact alerts through the app that go on to test positive for COVID-19 due to the fact that someone who is a close contact is offered two tests 1 week apart. This information will be available once sufficient time has elapsed and sufficient data has been gathered. We will also benchmark the data gathered against data from other countries that are using the same technology to ensure the app is performing as expected.

Based on today's data, 137 people have received a close contact alert. To note the app protects users privacy by allowing them to choose if they share data with the HSE. This means that we do not have a record of the total number of close contact alerts as this happens on a person's phone.

I trust this addresses your question.

Yours sincerely,



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**Niamh O'Beirne**  
**National Lead for Testing and Tracing**