

13th July 2020

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 12811/20

Question: “To ask the Minister for Health if nursing home staff being tested for Covid19 will have their results relayed to them directly and not to their managers, in view of the fact that this was the case previously when there was mass testing of nursing home staff”

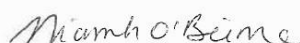
Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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 Nursing Home staff receive their test result in the first instance by text or telephone call. If the result is positive, a HSE staff member from the Contact Tracing Centre communicate results to nursing home staff by phone

We do endeavour to deliver test results to the staff member in the first instance and in compliance with GDPR and Infectious Diseases legislation 1981 as amended it is necessary sometimes to subsequently share test results with senior personnel from the employing facility e.g Occupational Health, Director of Nursing or a nominated doctor. This is done in the interests of public health, to ensure the safety and best care of residents and other staff.

Yours sincerely,



Niamh O'Beirne
National Lead for Testing and Tracing