



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

08 June 2020

Deputy Micheál Martin  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2.

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine  
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan  
An Ceantar Theas  
An Bothar Mileata  
Cill Mhaighneann  
BÁC 8

Acute Operations  
Health Service Executive  
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building  
Heuston South Quarter  
Military Road  
Kilmainham  
Dublin 8.

**PQ 8416/20** \* *To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether it is appropriate for delivery drivers to enter or pass through isolation wards in order to deliver materials to hospitals during the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Dear Deputy Martin,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The health and safety concerns of individuals making deliveries to healthcare settings has recently been considered by the National Director, Acute Operations following a number of representations from the sector. The National Director, Acute Operations appreciates and recognises these concerns. He is also cognisant of the health and safety, and infection control responsibilities, which the HSE holds with respect to the staff and patients, as well as other service providers, who are using our hospitals.

I can confirm that in some acute hospitals, delivery of PPE, major equipment deliveries, pharmaceutical supplies and catering supplies are managed through a single delivery point which is a significant logistical undertaking.

Recognising the essential role of the supply chain and the workers engaged in that sector, I wish to advise you that the National Director, Acute Operations has requested the Hospital Groups to engage with the hospitals within their remit, to assess the risks, and put appropriate measures in place, to minimise the risks to individuals making deliveries to the hospitals. This approach will also ensure that the risks and demands on hospital staff who receive deliveries is also managed.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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**Carol Ivory**  
General Manager, Acute Operations