



3rd December 2020

Deputy Róisín Shortall,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 35359/20 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a record of all meetings between officials of the HSE and a company (details supplied)

PQ 35355/20 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a list of HSE contracts awarded to a company (details supplied); the details of the contracts including cost, purpose, length of term and tender process; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Details Supplied: Vanguard Health Services International

- Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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

There have been meetings between the HSE and Vanguard Health Services International on the following dates;

- 14th December 2018
- 9th January 2019
- 24th January 2019
- 14th February 2019
- 27th March 2019
- 28th March 2019
- 4th April 2019
- 8th April 2019
- 5th February 2020
- 10th April 2020

There have been no HSE contracts awarded to this company. They have submitted proposals previously but have not been successful at tender competitions.

Following a tender competition using the Restricted Procedure the HSE awarded Lot 2 Provision of Non-Compounded Medications and Associated Services to the OPAT Programme to Point of Care in July 2015 for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 x 12 months.

On receipt of a request to transfer the OPAT service from Point of Care to Vanguard Health Services International an online meeting was held on 29th September 2020 between all parties concerned. Subsequent to this meeting a further clinical discussion took place on 19th October 2020 to discuss the clinical requirements of the OPAT service, nurse training and supervision and their Standard Operating Procedures. Following the series of meetings, and completion of necessary documents the HSE proceeded with the contract novation to Vanguard Health Services International effective from December 01st 2020.

Discussions are currently underway with the OPAT service regarding a contract extension for The Provision of Non-Compounded Medications and Associated Services to the OPAT Programme, using Article 72 of the Procurement Directives which will run to 30th June 2021. It is anticipated that a tender competition will be run for the OPAT service in 2021.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



TJ Dunford.
Interim Head of Primary Care Operations/AND.
Community Operations