



Oifig an Leas-Stiúirthóir Ginearálta-Oibríochtaí  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte  
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'  
Baile Átha Cliath 8

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11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Ms. Emer Higgins, TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**By email to:** [emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

**Ref: PQ 31563/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans for Covid-19 care at Citywest, County Dublin**

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Dear Deputy Higgins,

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. I apologise for the delay in responding to your question and any inconvenience caused.

The HSE Self Isolation Facility at the Citywest Hotel opened to admissions on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 under the governance of HSE Community Operations (Primary Care). The service is provided for people affected by Covid-19 (confirmed or suspected cases, or close contacts of confirmed cases) who have the capacity for self-management, are required to self-isolate but are unable to do so. The purpose of the unit is to provide a safe environment for residents to self-isolate and to minimise the risk of community transmission of Covid-19. Referrals to this facility are made by a discharging hospital, GP, Public Health doctor, contact tracing team or other appropriate medical physician.

The facility at the Citywest Hotel is also used to provide Self-Isolation Facilities for healthcare staff who are required to self-isolate. The service is provided for healthcare workers who are employed by, or are contracted to commence employment with the HSE, HSE funded agencies or any agency providing healthcare services in Ireland. Referrals are made by Public Health doctors, Occupational Health, HR departments and GPs.

A COVID-19 testing centre, both walk-in and drive through, by appointment, has also been operational at CityWest since the 3<sup>rd</sup> September and is open seven days a week. It can swab up to 1,000 people per day.

The convention centre is currently being used and developed to support a number of scheduled care activities to support our acute hospitals. Initiatives include:

- Drive through Glaucoma pressure testing for return patients of the Ireland East Hospital Group.
- CHI Allergy Testing
- Paediatric Immunisations

- Epilepsy Clinic

Further initiatives are being planned such as Rheumatology, Adult Allergy Testing, Orthopaedic Outpatient and Neurology Outpatient clinics.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne O'Connor', written over a horizontal line.

Anne O'Connor  
Chief Operations Officer