

Office of the Workstream Lead, Vaccination Process & Workforce. Tel: (045) 988 363 Address: Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Kildare, W91KDC2

Oifig Cheannasaí an tSrutha Oibre, Próiseas Vacsaínithe & Lucht Saothair Teil: (045) 988 363 Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, Nás, Cill Dara, W91KDC2

## 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Deputy Cahill, Kildare Street, Dáil Eireann, Dublin 2

## Re: PQ 21569/21

- "To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons aged 70 years of age and over in County Tipperary who have been registered by general practitioners to be vaccinated in their own homes under the National Ambulance Service Covid-19 home vaccination service as of 20 April 2021; the number of those persons who have been vaccinated to date; the reason a person in County Tipperary has had their appointment suddenly cancelled and extended by four weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Cahill,

Please find below the numbers of referrals to the National Ambulance Service (NAS) for domiciliary vaccination in County Tipperary since the 20<sup>th</sup> of April. These includes individuals who received both doses, one dose only, those residing in hospitals, vaccinated elsewhere, who refused vaccination and those who passed away before receiving their first or second dose.

There were 92 individuals referred by GPs to the Over 70s Housebound Vaccination Programme in County Tipperary. Of the 92 referred 60 individuals were eligible for the programme and received vaccination from the NAS. 32 individuals were not vaccinated by the NAS team for a range of reasons including having already received vaccination from a different source, refusing the vaccine on the day or because they were deceased.

The HSE cannot comment on individual cases where appointments have been rescheduled. The housebound programme of vaccination is logistically complex and there are a range of reasons which may result in an appointment being postponed. This may include the medical eligibility of the individual on the day and other logistical delivery factors.

As part of this programme, NAS administered a total of 5,293 vaccinations (2,717 Dose 1 vaccinations and 2,576 dose 2 vaccinations). The feedback received in relation to the service has been positive. A new programme for the vaccination of individuals who are housebound aged 16 and over has commenced. This programme will also administer dose 2 vaccinations to those who have become housebound since receiving their first dose. This programme will be operated at a local level through the Community Healthcare Organisations. Any individuals who were not referred during the time the over 70's housebound programme was operating will be included in this new pathway. Each CHO has a dedicated team to process and vaccinate all eligible housebound individuals

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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David Walsh Workstream Lead Vaccination Process and Workforce