



6th May, 2021

Ms. Catherine Connolly T.D.
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 21992/21

PQ 21992/21– “To ask the Minister for Health if consideration has been given to providing self-catering accommodation rather than non-self-catering accommodation to healthcare workers availing of the temporary accommodation scheme to ensure such workers have access to cooking facilities including refrigeration facilities and are not reliant on for example take-away food; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Since the inception of the temporary staff accommodation scheme consideration has been given to providing self-catering accommodation as well as non-self-catering accommodation to healthcare workers availing of the temporary accommodation scheme for staff.

When a healthcare worker is requesting staff accommodation they have the option to select self-catering accommodation on the referral form. Due consideration is always given to the request and the most appropriate accommodation is given depending on availability in the location at the current time. It must be noted that self-catering accommodation is not always available in certain locations and may depend on the current demand. Healthcare workers will be accommodated as much as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Frances McNamara
Assistant National Director,
Office of the Chief Operations Officer