

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County

Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Cuimsiú Sóisialta – Seirbhíse Andúile,

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath, Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna, Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

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Mr. Ged Nash, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

General Manager, Social Inclusion – Addiction Service, HSE Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County, Ballymun Healthcare Facility, Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

17th February 2021

PQ 6123/21: To ask the Minister for Health, if an organisation (details supplied) received a supply of Covid-19 vaccinations; when all drug rehabilitation community employment projects are expected to receive Covid-19 vaccinations; and when he will make a statement on the matter and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Ged Nash DETAILS: Ana Liffey Project

Dear Deputy Nash,

As part of the HSE/Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) Covid-19 Homeless response plan, a number of front line staff from Addiction services in CHO DNCC have been redeployed to our Homeless Covid-19 Response Team (HCRT) to support the critical work of tracking, tracing and isolating Covid-19 suspected and Covid-19 positive homeless persons. This team includes a number of staff that work for the organisation referenced in your question and I can confirm vaccination has been offered to all members of our Homeless Covid-19 Response Team.

On the wider issue of vaccination of all drug rehabilitation community employment projects, the Government's published Covid-19 Vaccination Allocation Strategy provides the provisional sequencing for vaccination based on clinical priorities and was developed by the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) and Department of Health, endorsed by the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET). More information on the Government published Covid-19 Vaccination Allocation Strategy is available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups.

The roll out of the vaccination programme is dependent on a number of factors, including vaccine supply. It is important to note vaccine rollout plans must be flexible to accommodate unforeseen events and to operate in what is an evolving situation internationally.

The HSE have also started vaccinating frontline Health Care Workers (HCWs) in direct patient contact roles, following the HSE published guideline and within the current vaccine supply. We will continue to have a sustained focus on vaccination of frontline HCWs during February 2021, working in partnership and supported by our colleagues across Hospital Groups.

Over the coming weeks the vaccination programme will be expanded to those living in the community in line with the priority groupings, which initially refers to individuals aged 70 years and older in the following order: 85 and older, 80 - 84, 75 - 79, and 70 - 74.

Seirbhís SláinteBuilding aNíos FearrBetter Healthá ForbairtService

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

C.R.

Dónal Cassidy, General Manager, Social Inclusion and Addiction Service