



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Paul McAuliffe TD

Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Email:

Date: 11 February 2021

PQ Ref 6694/21 (142) To ask the Minister for Health his views on the fact that Dublin Fire Brigade paramedics have not yet received their vaccination (details supplied); the reason for the delay in the vaccinations; and the governance arrangements under which Dublin Fire Brigade receive vaccinations

Dear Deputy McAuliffe

Now that we have safe and effective vaccines available, we are aware that most people are keen to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. The key constraint to planning and scheduling vaccine administration is the limited amount of vaccine available so it is not possible to reach everyone as quickly as we would like. Given that limitation, the Government published a national list of Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups on December 8th. This list is available at the following link - - <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/39038-provisional-vaccine-allocation-groups/>.

The HSE's has resumed the administration of the vaccine to frontline healthcare workers as outlined in the sequencing document this week. This includes the resumption of the administration of the vaccination programme to the paramedic staff of both the NAS and Dublin Fire Brigade. I am aware that there has been discussions and communication between the National Ambulance Service Director and the Chief Fire Officer of Dublin Fire Brigade on this matter as part of the their normal engagements on service delivery and continuity. We are all keen to ensure all frontline healthcare workers are vaccinated as quickly as possible.

The HSE is doing everything that it can to reach everyone as quickly as possible and hopes that the vaccinations will progress swiftly in line with the Government's Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Hayden
General Manager
Office of the CCO