



PRÍOMHOIFIGEACH ECSP CEANTAR 8
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION 8

Príomhoifigeach CHO Ceantar 8
Oifig an Cheantair
Páirc Ghnó Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia
Sráid Hale
Baile Átha Fhirdhia
Contae Lú

t: 041 6871500

Chief Officer CHO8 Area
Area Office
Ardee Business Park
Hale Street
Ardee
Co Louth

t: 041 6871500

4th March 2021

Deputy Ged Nash
Dáil Éireann
Leinser House
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 7915/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the locations of the Covid-19 community vaccination centres in counties Louth and Meath; when they will be operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Ged Nash

Dear Deputy Nash,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The Locations for Vaccine Centres in Louth and Meath are:

Louth - Fairways Hotel, Dundalk due to open on March 29th 2021

Meath - Simonstown GAA Centre, Navan, due to open April 6th 2021

Both opening dates are subject to appropriate staffing being in place and all operational issues being agreed.

Vaccines are currently being administered in healthcare settings, to front-line healthcare workers, and to people aged 70 and over by their GPs across 1,300 practices. At the moment, vaccine administration is limited only by the supply of approved vaccines and that is dependent on the manufacturers meeting their supply commitments. The HSE is engaged in creating an expanded vaccination infrastructure, managing a suite of vaccine products with different handling and delivery requirements.

Using CSO Census population data, the HSE has located 37 vaccination centres, ranging in capacity, which will be used to vaccinate the wider population. A total of 7 locations have been identified for HSE Midlands Louth and Meath (CHO8). Work is being progressed in accordance with the announcement of the Department of Health on Monday, 15th of February. The centres will come on stream as needed, with AIT expected to be completed by late March, with a dedicated workforce being central to achieving full operational status. All centres will be ready in advance of the need to match vaccine supply which, based on current information, is forecast to reach a peak in Quarter 2.

There's no charge for getting your Covid-19 vaccine. It's free. Our aim in offering COVID-19 vaccines to the population is to protect people and reduce the illness and deaths caused by this virus.

At the moment, people do not need to register for vaccination in advance – when we move forward to begin vaccinating the next priority groups, the HSE will use news, public notices, advertising, social media, partner organisations to alert people that it's their turn to come forward.

For those who do not have a GP, the HSE can support people through our phone line. More information on this process will be announced by the HSE very shortly, and we will be engaging with partner organisations, to keep them informed, and to ask for their support as relevant. Call HSE Live on: 1850 241 850 or 01 240 8787.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Kennedy
Acting Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation