



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

Chief Officer CHO8 Area  
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PRÍOMHOIFIGEACH ECSP CEANTAR 8  
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION 8

t: 041 6871500

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4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ - 8048/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the arrangements that will be made to provide Covid-19 vaccination centres to the wider population in County Louth by location, including in Drogheda, Dundalk and Ardee; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Fergus O'Dowd**

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

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

The Location for Vaccine Centre in Louth is the Fairways Hotel, Dundalk.

It should be noted that vaccination centres are in addition to locations such as GP surgeries and pharmacies where vaccines will also be delivered. Also the arrangements with the proposed venues are still being finalised in a number of locations and some of these locations may be subject to change.

The HSE identified a number of facilities within each region/locality for survey purposes against a standard national specification for vaccination centres. Identified facilities needed to be available for a minimum of six months from 1 March.

Centres will be of varying sizes reflecting local population needs and the availability of appropriate facilities in particular locations. The largest centres (x12) will have 30 to 50 booths and the capacity to deliver to 3,000 to 5,000 vaccinations per day over a 12 hour shift. Other (smaller) centres will typically have 10 to 20 booths and the capacity to deliver 1,000 to 2,000 vaccinations per day.

The utilisation of the vaccination centres will be dependent on staffing and vaccine availability. We expect to commence using the first of the new capacity in a number of weeks and in line with the projected increases in vaccine availability.

Existing vaccinators will continue to support, where possible, the roll out of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme at local level across all sites identified. These cohort of vaccinators are not hospital or LTRC

specific, but form part of the wider Integrated Services Programme - working as a part of multi-disciplinary teams delivering a national coordinated approach to the rollout of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Recruitment of a new Vaccinator workforce to support the larger vaccination clinics has been launched and is open to applicants nationally, see <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/covidjobs/>

Vaccine rollout plans must be flexible to accommodate unforeseen events and to operate in what is an evolving situation internationally. We have committed volumes under the EU's Advanced Purchase Agreement but the schedule of delivery remains fluid. We are not currently providing the sequencing for vaccine rollout in each of the various cohorts as schedules of delivery are confirmed on a rolling basis.

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,



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Anne Kennedy  
Acting Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation