



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Office of the Chief Clinical Officer  
Dr Steevens' Hospital|Steevens' Lane|Dublin 8|D08 W2A8  
email: [cco@hse.ie](mailto:cco@hse.ie)

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Clínicíúil  
Ospidéal Dr Steevens|Lána Steevens|Baile Átha Cliath 8|D08 W2A8

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

**Deputy Claire Kerrane**

Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2  
Email:

Date: 23/02/2021

**PQ 8651/21 (204) - To ask the Minister for Health if a strategy has been announced regarding the roll-out of Covid-19 vaccinations on the offshore islands; if on-island vaccination clinics will be set up to ensure the protection of vulnerable persons within these communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

Thank you for your representation. The HSE is rolling out the vaccine allocation in line with the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) groupings. The vaccine programme commenced vaccination of group 3 of the allocation list on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February.

The HSE is committed to ensuring all over 70s patients in this group gain access to the vaccine as required including those living in remote locations. To this end the HSE, working with a number of state agencies including the Defence Forces arranged for vaccines distributed to Inishmore & Innis Oirr - Aran Islands off the coast of Galway and Arranmore Island off the coast of Donegal. Work is ongoing involving all relevant stakeholders to ensure the various arrangements are in place as required. Work is also ongoing to ensure that all remaining islands and remote locations are appropriately addressed and in this regard special arrangements have already been put in place to provide the vaccine to over 35 remote rural practices over the coming days.

I hope this provides you with assistance.

Yours sincerely

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Sharon Hayden  
General Manager  
Office of the CCO