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BY EMAIL ONLY

Deputy Réada Cronin

Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2 Email:

Date: 01/03/2021

PQ 9067/21 (216) - To ask the Minister for Health the public information strategy in place or planned to address comprehensively the safety issues raised in conscientious objection by doctors in order to maximise public trust and public confidence in the Covid-19 vaccines for the best possible public health outcome in the pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cronin,

Thank you for your representation. There has been a significant demand to receive the COVID-19 vaccine to date, which is welcomed, and we expect this positive trend to continue.

Participation in vaccination programmes in Ireland is not mandatory. Should a person change their mind, vaccination can be made available to them.

We are engaging with the staff panel of trade unions with regard to how best to deal with circumstances where staff refuse to get vaccinated, and such issues will be kept under ongoing monitoring and assessment.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

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Sharon Hayden General Manager Office of the CCO