

15th January 2020

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

E: richar.boydbarrett@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 2238/21 - Vaccine roll out, IEHG

"To ask the Minister for Health the details of the roll out of the vaccine to the staff in the Ireland East Hospital Group; the order in which the hospitals will be scheduled; the order in which the staff will be vaccinated by staff discipline and dates for each hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on the roll out of the vaccine to the staff in the Ireland East Hospital Group, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that the Ireland East Hospital Group commenced the roll out of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine on 5 January 2021. At the time of writing over 12,100 staff across our hospitals, the National Ambulance Service and Community Healthcare workers have received their first dose of the vaccine.

As requested last week, the IEHG Corporate Team and many IEHG hospitals are now also delivering the vaccination programme to residents in long-term care facilities. All staff within the Ireland East Hospital Group will be vaccinated in due course as and when vaccines become available.

All our hospitals are vaccinating staff in line with priority recommendations issued by the Chief Clinical Officer of the HSE which can be viewed at: https://bit.ly/39DidcY Vaccines are distributed in as equitable a manner as possible and as current vaccine supplies allow.

All our hospitals have established standby lists of staff later in the prioritisation order that may be contacted at short notice in the event that staff earlier in the prioritisation order do not attend or cannot receive the vaccine.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gallagher

Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

