

**31 March, 2021**

Mr. Mattie McGrath, TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 4312/21**

To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the lease signed between the HSE and a hotel (Citywest) for the purposes of a Covid-19 isolation centre; the value of the contract; the length of the initial contract; the value of any renewed contract; the amount expended to date; the number of persons who used the facility; the average length of time each person stayed at the facility; the number of healthcare workers allocated to work at the facility; the level of accommodation and bed capacity included within the contract; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I apologise for the delay in responding; the following outlines the position:

The HSE's Self-Isolation Facility at the Citywest Hotel opened to admissions on 1st April 2020 under the governance of HSE. The service is provided for people affected by COVID-19 (confirmed or suspected cases, or close contacts of confirmed cases) who have the capacity for self-management, are required to self-isolate but are unable to do so. The purpose of the unit is to provide a safe environment for residents to self-isolate and to minimise the risk of community transmission of COVID-19. Referrals to this facility are made by a discharging hospital, GP, Public Health doctor, contact tracing team or other appropriate medical physician via a dedicated email using a standard referral form.

Additionally, a HSE Healthcare Worker Self-Isolation pathway at Citywest opened to admissions on 1st June 2020 under the governance of HSE Community Operations. This service is provided for Healthcare Workers who are contracted to commence employment with the HSE, HSE funded agencies or any agency providing healthcare services in Ireland.

Since it became operational on 1st April 2020, there have been a total of 2,693 admissions to the Self-Isolation Facility and a total of 2,195 Healthcare Workers admitted up to 28 March 2021. The self-isolation facility has 756 bedrooms with capacity for 1,138 persons in current configuration.

Healthcare supports are provided by a multidisciplinary team comprising GPs, nursing staff, healthcare assistants, administration and management support in addition to security staff. The staff breakdown presented in the table below supports up to 100-150 residents in the Self-Isolation Facility.

<b>Role</b>	<b>WTE to support 100 - 150 residents</b>
Site Manager	1
Director of Nursing	1
Clinical Nurse Manager	2
RGN (Day)	2.2
RGN (night)	2.2
CNM 2	2
Healthcare Assistants (Day)	4.4
Healthcare Assistants (Night)	2.2
Administration	3.5
Security	2
Social Worker	0.5
Counselling	0.5

In addition to the National Self-Isolation Facility managed by Community Operations, the Convention Centre at Citywest is being used for outpatients and day services. The Convention Centre is not an acute facility nor is it appropriate for patients with patients with high acuity needs, but it is providing infrastructure to support patient care in a number of key service areas. Examples of service types are outlined below:

- OPD Face to Face Consultations
- OPD Virtual Consultations
- Low complexity Day Case Activities
- Screening/Immunisation programmes
- COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics
- Rehab (face to face and virtually)

In addition, both a drive through and a walk in testing clinic operate at Citywest as well as a large scale vaccination centre currently in development and scaling up vaccinations.

Details of the contract are outlined as follows:

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Value of Contract</b>	<b>Initial Length of Contract</b>	<b>Amount Expended to Date</b>
Licence fee / Contract 1	€21.096m - the actual rounded amount paid in Licence Fee from 26 March 2020 to 22 Oct 2020	26 March 2020 to 31 December 2020 with a break option after 120 days by serving 90 days' notice	€21.096m
Licence fee / Contract 2	€7.205m - the anticipated minimum cost of the Licence Fee of the contract duration i.e. 23 October 2020 – 30 June 2021	HSE served this break notice, which was effective 22 October 2020	€1.859m – licence fee paid from 23 October 2020 to 31 December 2020

Office of the Chief Operations Officer,  
Room 1.38, Dr. Steevens' Hospital,  
Dublin 8.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Frances McNamara', written in black ink on a light-colored background.

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**Frances McNamara**  
**Assistant National Director**