

29th March 2020

Deputy Michael Fitzmaurice T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
E: michael.fitzmaurice@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 14177/21 – Access to the canteen, RHM

“To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the management of the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar are advising staff that have not been vaccinated for Covid-19 that they should not attend the reopened canteen in the hospital despite the fact that vaccine is not mandatory; his views on whether staff are being discriminated against; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

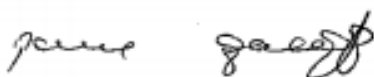
Dear Deputy Fitzmaurice,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking information regarding access to the canteen in Regional Hospital Mullingar for those who are not vaccinated, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that the advice of the Covid Committee at Regional Hospital Mullingar is that unvaccinated staff should be mindful of attending the staff canteen – no one is banned from attending - due to the number of people in the same shared space to facilitate staff breaks. All persons entering and using the canteen facility have personal responsibility to adhere to infection prevention and control measures that are currently in place.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery