

Office of the Chief Information Officer
delivering eHealth Ireland,
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25th March 2021

Mr. Richard Boyd Barrett TD Dáil Eireann Leinster House Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 14438/21

"To ask the Minister for Health if he has given consideration to using the IT system that Teagasc and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine have that tracks and traces the national herd and records and traces each inoculation to help in the roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccination which could prove to be cost efficient; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

The HSE undertook a rapid procurement process utilising the provisions of EU Directive (2014) Article 32.2. (c) at a time of extreme urgency to acquire and sustain a vaccine rollout process, the normal procurement related pre-qualification processes could not be applied. A specification of the functionally required was developed National Immunisation Office in the HSE. The HSE considered a number of options in the selection of the Covid-19 vaccination solution. The solution was selected following a rapid evaluation process on a number of potential solutions.

The functionality requirements of a human vaccination system are considerably different from an animal inoculation solution.

The national vaccination system went live on the 29th December 2020. This system facilitates the recording of vaccinations for the population. The system is a single national solution and will facilitate a single registry for the Covid-19 vaccination.

The HSE intend to run a national procurement for a national immunisation system later this year.

If you feel that the question has not been fully answered or you require any further clarity, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Fran Thompson,

Interim Chief Information Officer, OoCIO, HSE.