



**9<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**

Ms. Catherine Connolly T.D.  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 17064/21**

PQ 17064/21– “To ask the Minister for Health the status of the temporary accommodation scheme for healthcare workers; if the scheme remains open and available for use by healthcare workers including healthcare workers who are in the international protection process and would ordinarily be living in direct provision; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The temporary accommodation scheme for staff has been in operation since the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 in line with the recommendation from NPHE. It is communicated on a regular basis that this scheme is temporary in nature and will continue to operate as long as we are in a COVID-19 environment and there is demand from healthcare workers who continue to meet the necessary eligibility criteria including health care workers who are currently residing in direct provision.

A national guidance document was developed which sets out a single process for Healthcare Workers in response to Covid-19, to ensure temporary accommodation is available at suitable locations within their immediate work area - <https://healthservice.hse.ie/staff/coronavirus/policies-procedures-guidelines/temporary-accommodation-for-healthcare-workers.html>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frances McNamara', written over a horizontal line.

**Frances McNamara**  
**Assistant National Director,**  
**Office of the Chief Operations Officer**