

1st Dec. 2021

Deputy Gary Gannon,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Issued via email to: gary.gannon@oireachtas.ie

PQ Number: 56554/21

Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who have been contacted by HSE contact tracing teams as a result of close contact tracing in nightclubs and music venues since their reopening on 22 October 2021.

Dear Deputy Gannon,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Following the easing of restrictions since 22nd October 2021, the Contact Management Programme (CMP) has experienced an extremely high sustained demand for Covid-19 services. During this current period of high activity, the CMP is targeting its resources to support our colleagues in Public Health Departments in their priority areas. The priority areas being focussed on include Special Education, Nursing Homes, Residential Care facilities and members of the Travelling/Roma communities. As a result, we are not currently collating information on nightclubs and music venues. When an outbreak is identified in a nightclub or music venue, it is managed by the relevant regional Public Health who undertake a Public Health risk assessment. However we can provide the following information to help quantify demand for contact tracing services. Comparing the week commencing October 18th, to the week commencing November 15th:

- The average quantity of positive test results received daily by the CMP increased from 2,264 to 4,654 (112% increase)
- The average positivity rate has increased from 11.4% to 17.3%
- The average quantity of positive index patients notified each day of their positive test results has increased from 1,880 to 3,506 (86% increase)

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Damien McCallion
National Director
National Lead Test & Trace and Vaccination Programme