



**Office of the National Clinical Director for Health Protection**

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11<sup>TH</sup>.March 2022

Deputy Catherine Murphy  
TD  
Dail Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 11220/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of site visits that have been made by his public health officials to the Askeaton area in the context of a factory (details supplied); and if his Department has surveyed public health environment in the area.**

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my Department for direct response to you on same.

Representatives from the Mid-West Public Health Department have participated in exercises prior to the pandemic, which take place in conjunction with the facility, HSE Environmental Health, HSE Emergency Management and other agencies. This involved an on-site visit. Some current staff members in public health have visited once prior to pandemic. Other staff members from public health have visited previously but are now retired.

The Public Health department has not undertaken any recent studies of the environment in the area.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**DR. JOHN CUDDIHY**  
**DIRECTOR OF HPSC AND OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL CLINICAL DIRECTOR FOR**  
**HEALTH PROTECTION**  
**Medical Council Registration Number: 016227**

