



An Oifig Náisiúnta um Rialú Tobac
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Teach na Darrach
Pairc na Mílaoise
An Nás
Co. Cill Dara

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Date 16 .05.2022

Bernard J Durkan TD

Leinster House

Kildare St

Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 22211/22

Dear Deputy Durkan

The Minister has referred PQ ref 22211/22 to the Health Service Executive for a direct reply.

Question:

To ask the Minister for Health the progress in relation to any ongoing HSE investigations into any tobacco products currently on the market in Ireland for having a characterising flavour of menthol, contrary to the EU Tobacco Products Directive; if the investigations have concluded and the outcome of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Response:

With the introduction of the ban on menthol as a characterising flavour in cigarettes and roll your own tobacco products in May 2020, the HSE engaged with tobacco manufacturers that had notified these products to the HSE via the European Union Common Entry Gate (EUCEG). Following this engagement a number of tobacco manufacturers removed cigarettes and roll your own tobacco products containing menthol from the market. However some tobacco manufacturers have added new notifications to the EUCEG for cigarette products containing menthol. The HSE Environmental Health Service is therefore continuing to deal with this issue and investigations are ongoing.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Maurice Mulcahy

Regional Chief Environmental Health Officer