



25th November 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Issued via email to: neasa.hourigan@oireachtas.ie

PQ Number: 54883/22

Question: To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 529 of 20 September 2022 and 224 of 12 October 2022, where in the sequencing of HSE staff were members of the national HSE executive management team placed for first dose Covid-19 vaccines in 2021, as part of the national roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine programme to HSE staff; the date/s were the national HSE executive management team offered first dose vaccines as part of that national roll-out; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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

As advised in previous PQ responses relating to this matter I wish to confirm in 2021 there was no separate scheduling process for HSE senior management as part of the national roll-out of the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme. The date on which public servants were offered access to a Covid-19 vaccine was dependant on their alignment to the sequencing guidelines rather than their employment as a public servant, given the broad spectrum of those employed within the public service these dates would vary. HSE senior management were eligible for their vaccination when the cohort relevant to their circumstance arose.

HSE vaccination clinics were directed to follow the scheduling in the Government Strategy. Additional guidance was put in place by the Chief Clinical Officer in scheduling appropriate staff taking into account their risk of exposure to Covid 19 in their work setting rather than their grade. This documentation can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/covid-19-vaccine-materials/sequencing-of-covid-19-vaccination-of-frontline-healthcare-workers.pdf>

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Whelan
National Lead Test & Trace and Vaccination Programme