



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
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26th June 2023

Deputy Cairns,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 29843/23 – To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to ensure that all equipment and aids, including specialist chairs, provided to individuals are non-flammable; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 29843/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

All equipment tendered for, and purchased by the HSE must be CE marked and must comply with all relevant EU Directives. The procurement process will specify the standards including those relating to the fire retardant properties of the equipment.

In the case of specialist chairs, it is a mandatory requirement that all products comply at a minimum to BS 5852 ignition sources 5 (crib 5).

The standards for generic furniture provided in a domestic setting are as follows;

I.S .254: 1983 Flame resistance requirements for Upholstery or equivalent

IS EN 1021-1:2006 Part 1 Ignition Source Smouldering Cigarette or equivalent

IS EN 1021-2:2006 Ignition Source Match Flame or equivalent

BS EN 1021-1(smouldering cigarette) and BS EN 1021-2 (simulated match) or equivalent.

BS 7177:2008 Resistance against ignition of mattresses, mattress pads, divans and bed bases.

The fire retardancy standard for mattresses' used in domestic settings is BS6807 /BS7177 to CRIB 5.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations