



**Bainisteoir Gnó
An Roinn Cumarsáide**

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Deputy Nessa Hourigan

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Dear Deputy Hourigan

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a copy of the HSEs communication policy for persons wishing to record, film or take photographs on a HSE site.

The following are the guidelines for staff

What to do if the media present on HSE premises seeking interviews or photographs?

The Media are obliged not to conduct Interviews, filming or photography on HSE premises without the prior approval of the National Press Office/ CHO/Hospital Group Communications office in your area.

Any filming or recording of staff and patients requires strict adherence to signing Public Liability, Indemnity and Consent forms.

Where the media contact the Communications office to seek permission to film or take photographs of a HSE premises, the Communications office will consult with the relevant manager. If permission is granted the Communications office will make the appropriate arrangements. Where possible a member of the Communications team will be present on the day to facilitate and manage the media.

If the media present on HSE premises seeking interviews/photographs, without prior approval, you should inform them that it is HSE policy that all media requests are referred to the CHO/Hospital Group Communications office in your area or to the National Press Office.

You should give them contact details for your Communications office and you should also contact your Communications office immediately to advise that the media are present at your premises/location.

Patient/Client Confidentiality

The HSE places great emphasis on the need for strictest confidentiality in respect of our patients and clients. Every patient and client in the care of the HSE is entitled to the reassurance that the HSE will not comment on the particular circumstances of their case or



engage in public debate on private matters or permit to them being photographed or other media intrusion while in our care without permission.

Further information is also available on the HSE website.

Updated GDPR / consent form and information leaflet

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/communications/branding/>

- [HSE consent form for photography/audio/video \(Word, 26KB, 1 page\)](#)
- [HSE consent information leaflet for photography/audio/video \(PDF, 189KB, 2 pages\)](#)

I trust this addresses your question. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mary Brodie

Communications Division.