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29th March 2023

Deputy O'Dowd
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ 11931/23 - To ask the Minister for Health if the commissioner of the report of the investigation of complaints made by protected disclosure into a community nursing home (details supplied) was requested by a company to extend the remit of the report to include evidence presented by this Deputy to the investigating team on 7 December 2022; the reasons given not to extend the remit to include details of any consultations they had with others in relation to this issue; the reason it took ten months to publish this report; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 12091/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the total cost of the final report on the protected disclosure into allegations made by a whistle-blower in April regarding the care of patients during Covid-19 at a facility (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 12092/23 - To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE refused a request from the investigation team (details supplied) appointed by the HSE to investigate complaints made by protected disclosure into a facility to extend the remit of its investigation to include a letter from this Deputy which gave evidence of minutes of a CHO meeting held on 14 May 2020, which included an instruction to remove certain emails off the system, the date of which meeting was outside the terms of reference; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Fergus O'Dowd

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The purpose of protected disclosure investigations is to investigate specific matters disclosed, by the disclosure. The terms of reference of PD investigations are thereby limited to such matters. The total cost captured since finalisation of the investigation into this protected disclosure is €228,825.

The HSE accepted the final report in January 2023 and took a number of weeks to engage with residents and families prior to publication of the Executive Summary of the report in March 2023.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne O'Neill', written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne O'Neill
National Director
Community Operations