



Príomhoifigeach Sláinte Comhshaoil
Réigiúnach

Seirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil
An Chéad Úrlár, Aonad 4/5,
Foirgneamh Nexus, Páirc Chorpáraideach
Bhaile Bhlainséir,
Baile Átha Cliath 15, D15 CF9K

Regional Chief Environmental
Officer

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3rd April 2023

Deputy Hollie Cairns, TD,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: PQ Ref 14008/23, Deputy Holly Cairns T.D. to the Minister for Health re inspections by HSE.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

I refer to Parliamentary Question, PQ 14008/23, which was received by the HSE on 16/03/2023

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“...To ask the Minister for Health the obligations of the HSE to conduct inspections of private residences and/or rented accommodation where the environment is considered a hazard and dangerous due to mould and damp or rodent infestation. – Deputy Holly Cairns...”

Environmental Health Officers of the Environmental Health Service in the HSE are authorised officers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 (as amended by the Health Acts 1947 to 2004). This legislation places responsibilities of the occupier / owner of land to eliminate rodents from their property and to take appropriate action to prevent their property from becoming infested with rats and mice.

When the HSE Environmental Health Service receives a complaint, or otherwise becomes aware of private residences and/or rented accommodation, where there is a potential rodent infestation investigations are carried out by the Environmental Health Service under this legislation and appropriate action is taken.

In addition, the Environmental Health Service of the HSE provides a free treatment service, on request, to members of the public for the treatment of rats in private residences in Dublin City & County (with some exceptions). This service is provided to owner occupiers and to local authority tenants. It is not provided in private rented accommodation. The provision of this free treatment service is not a statutory function of the HSE.

There is no statutory function of the HSE in relation to mould or damp in private or rented accommodation.

Yours sincerely,


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Tara Uí Chaoilte,
Príomhoifigeach Sláinte Comhshaoil Réigiúnach

Tara Woods
Regional Chief Environmental Health Officer