



Office of the National Director of Procurement
Health Service Executive
Dr. Steevens' Hospital
Dublin 8
D08 W2A8

Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Soláthair
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Atha Clíath 8
D08 W2A8

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Deputy Pádraig O'Sullivan,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

07/06/2023

RE PQ 26249/23

Question

To ask the Minister for Health the practical steps the HSE is taking to reduce healthcare waste and improve waste segregation, following the new HSE action plan towards a more sustainable future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig O'Sullivan

Response

Deputy O'Sullivan,

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

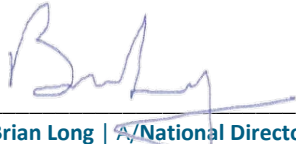
As the largest purchaser of goods, services and works in the State, the health service will play a central role in delivering greener public procurement. The HSE Corporate Procurement Plan 2022-2024 commits to Enabling Sustainable and Greener Public Procurement through promoting awareness of climate change and sustainability measures across the health service. Evolving procurement practices to promote greener goods and services is signalled as a fundamental part of the approach. An example of sustainable procurement is reflected in the area of clinical waste across the acute setting in the health service where all clinical waste is recycled.

The project was initiated by HSE Procurement creating an environment for innovative proposals from the marketplace in terms of clinical waste. It has resulted with the Supplier on Contract being able to certify that 100% of treated Healthcare Risk Waste is diverted from landfill and sent for recovery. Furthermore, there is a reduction in the use of single use plastic waste containers through the implementation of Reusable Sharps Containers for Healthcare into the hospitals. Every reusable container from the Supplier, replaces the use of up to 600 single use containers. Clinical waste training is in place to improve segregation. HSE have also focused on the importance of gaining service user confidence in terms of introducing the new process which has delivered on an improved service overall and contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions without incurring additional cost.

This study is very much aligned to the HSE Corporate Procurement Plan in terms of security of supply, supporting patient care, compliance and value for money.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the National Director of Procurement on (01) 635 2688 or via john.swords@hse.ie

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Long', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Brian Long | **National Director of Procurement** | HSE | 2nd Floor | Dr. Steevens' Hospital | Dublin 8 | D08 W2A8 |
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