



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta  
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

Ospideal an Dr. Steevens  
Baile Atha Cliath, D08 W2A8

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Deputy Alan Kelly  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

***PQ 18806/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of bodies that have been unclaimed in mortuaries nationwide since 1 January 2023; and the length of time each body has been left unclaimed for. -Alan Kelly***

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive 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.

Responsibility for matters related to unclaimed remains is directed and managed by Coroners across Ireland. The health service, to support coroners and their function, make available by arrangement, remains holding facilities at HSE hospital mortuaries. The Dublin District and Cork city mortuary are non-HSE facilities, not operated by the health service (i.e. there are remains holding facilities for which the HSE has no information on remains held at all).

In this context, the HSE does not hold the governance or responsibility for unclaimed remains and therefore does not collect or collate such information on a regular basis.

To assist your enquires, I would suggest that you direct your request for information to the Department of Justice who oversee the coronial service.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Dr. Ciaran Browne**  
**Office of the National Director**  
**Access and Integration**