

Clár Náisiúnta Vacsaínithe -Rochtain agus Imeascadh

Ospideal an Dr.Steevens', Baile Átha Cliath, D08 W2A8

National Vaccination Programmes - Access & Integration

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Mr Peadar Tóibín TD Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

PQ 33530/25 To ask the Minister for Health the number of temporary locations used for the Covid vaccine rollout that are still being rented in each county; the cost per county for rent since all Covid restrictions were lifted; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

From the 31st December 2024 there are no locations rented for the sole purpose of COVID-19 vaccinations.

COVID-19 Vaccination Centres provided a crucial accessible service to the nation during times of high demand for COVID-19 vaccination. Under the emergency pandemic situation which arose in 2020, there was a requirement to set up a number of temporary Vaccination Centres in various locations across the country which included rental properties in order to ensure access to vaccination for eligible cohorts.

In May 2023 the World Health Organisation declared that the COVID-19 pandemic was no longer a global health emergency, and the programme transitioned towards a more sustainable model of vaccine delivery in May 2023, ensuring access to vaccination remained available in line with NIAC recommendations. This began the closure and decanting process of rented COVID-19 Vaccination Centres as and when the lease agreement expired.

Following the transition phase in May 2023, it had reduced to 7 vaccination centres rented under lease agreements by August 2023, and reduced to 1 vaccination centre by June 2024. This agreement concluded in December 2024.

The national footprint for HSE COVID-19 vaccination teams now consists of a mobile vaccination offering whereby local vaccination teams are situated in 21 vaccination base locations, 19 of which are HSE owned premises, such as Primary Care Centres and Local Community Hospital settings. There are 2 locations in non HSE owned buildings. These buildings are used to provide a range of health related services to the respective regions.

Yours sincerely,

Noreen Curtin

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