

By email to ged.nash@oireachtas.ie

27th January 2020

Mr. Ged Nash, T.D,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question 3857/20 *“To ask the Minister for Health the expected vaccination timeline for maternity staff at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Nash,

The RCSI Hospital Group 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. Having reviewed the matter, the following outlines the position.

Please see HSE statement dated 26th January 2021 re: COVID-19 vaccine:

The HSE is rolling out the vaccine programme in line with the [Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups](#) published by government on the 8th of December. The immediate focus in this rollout is to groups 1 and 2 of the allocation plan. There has been significant demand for the vaccine, which is welcomed. It is important to emphasise that, the vaccine rollout plans must be flexible to accommodate unforeseen events and to operate in what is an evolving situation internationally. Currently, we do have reduced volumes and our plan is to focus on the long-term care facilities, in line with Government prioritisation. In excess of 73,100 healthcare workers have received their first dose and we will continue to administer the second dose to these in the coming weeks.

The HSE recognises the significant pressure that frontline healthcare workers are under in both community and the hospitals for so long now. It is a priority for the HSE to rollout out the vaccine as quickly as possible to the priority groups.

We trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



June Molloy
Communications Manager
RCSI Hospital Group