



Mr Paul Reid
Chief Executive Officer & Chair HSE National Crisis Management Team (NCMT)
Health Services Executive
Dr Steeven's Hospital
Dublin 8

12th March 2020

Via email to: ceo.office@hse.ie

Dear Paul

Following the meeting this evening of the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE), I wish to bring to your attention, as Chair of the HSE NCMT, the following actions, required of the HSE and HPSC, as agreed by NPHE:

1. HSE to publish the guidance regarding the self-isolation of confirmed cases on their website.
2. HSE will update the case definition and algorithm in the following ways:
 - a. Geographic criteria will be removed from the case definition.
 - b. Symptoms of new onset fever of 38 degrees and/or continuous cough will be considered when assessing the requirement testing.

For information, the NCMT may also wish to note the following additional actions agreed by the NPHE:

1. The NPHE supports the broad framework for the draft Cross-Government Action Plan for COVID-19 Response, as outlined.
2. DOH to incorporate HSE and other feedback received into the draft Cross-Government Action Plan for COVID-19 Response.
3. DOH to write to HSE regarding implementation of discharge criteria for self-isolation of confirmed cases, as outlined by the Expert Advisory Group.
4. The NPHE endorses the position that Ireland should continue to test all suspected cases of COVID-19 as per updated algorithm and will continue to keep this position under review.
5. The NPHE agrees to recommend all people returning from areas identified by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for avoidance of nonessential travel/do not travel for COVID-19, should restrict their movements for 14 days. This will apply prospectively. DOH to write to DFAT regarding this issue and to develop communications materials.
6. DOH to write to the EAG regarding any travel restrictions to be considered for healthcare workers.
7. DOH will forward HSE Port Health updates to the Senior Officials Group on COVID-19 for follow up and action.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the wider team across the HSE for your ongoing support and contributions to the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency response. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the engagement and collaboration over the last few days on the Cross-Government Action Plan for COVID-19 Response (as mentioned above).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Holohan', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr Tony Holohan
Chief Medical Officer