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Mr Peadar Toibin, TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

6th May 2022

PQ 18504/22* To ask the Minister for Health the number of contracts his Department or the HSE entered into with hotels, colleges, bed and breakfasts, hostels, convention centres, and accommodation providers for use as self-isolation facilities or field hospitals since the start of the pandemic; if a list of all the facilities will be provided; the length of each contract; the cost of each contract; the number of beds, rooms and units within each facility; and the number of persons that availed of each facility in each month of the operation of each contract. -Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Toibin,

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.

Self Isolation Facilities

Three self isolation facilities have been provided by the HSE during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- National Self Isolation Facility Citywest
- CHO 7 Vulnerable Persons Self Isolation Accommodation Templebar
- The Address Hotel, Amiens Street, Mountjoy, Dublin 1

National Self Isolation Facility Citywest

The capacity of Citywest hotel was 756 bedrooms with a bed count of 1,138. 10 rooms are designated for residents with limited mobility and 14 are interconnecting.

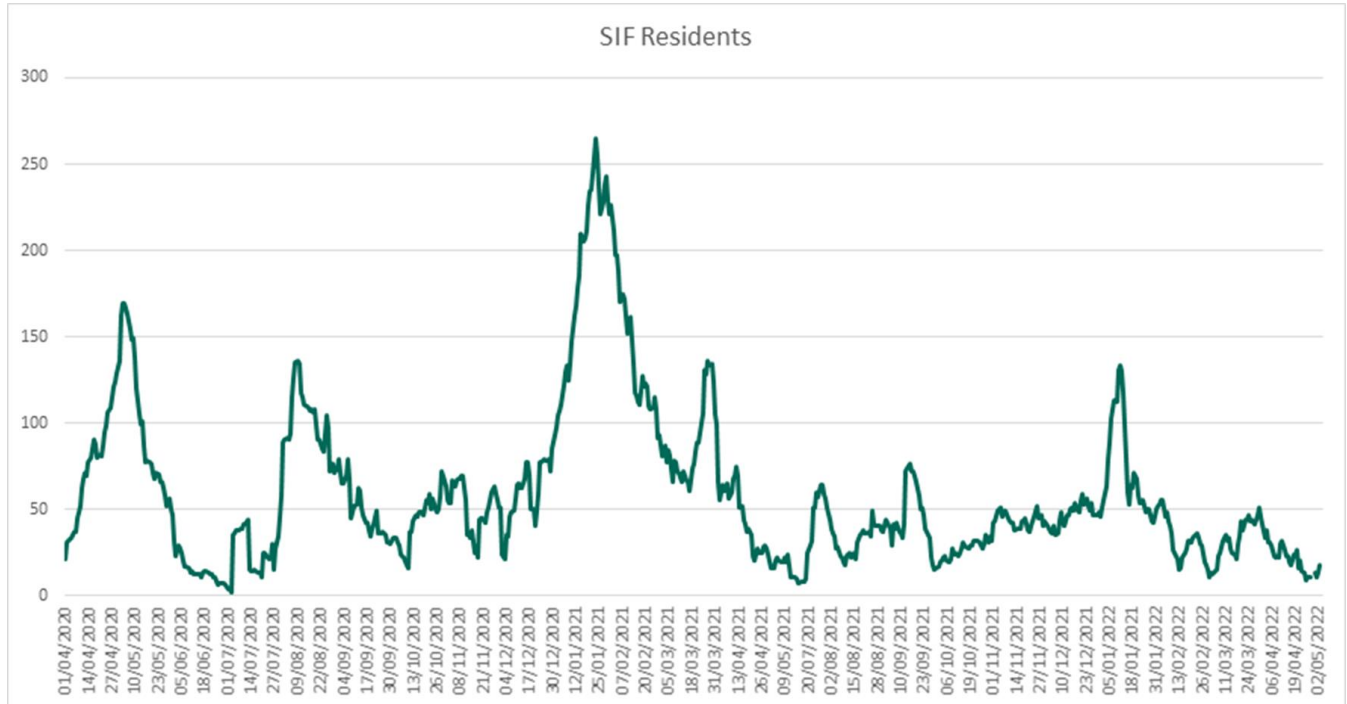
Length of contract and costs for Citywest were:

- Contract 1: 26 March 2020 – 22 October 2021 - Licence fee attributable to this period was €21,095,621.
- Contract 2: 23 October 2021 – 30 June 2021 - Licence fee attributable to this period was €7,394,745.
- Contract 3: 1 July 2021 to 31 January 2022 - Licence fee attributable to this period was €7,203,550.

Citywest is now fully vacated with only a Vaccination Centre remaining in the Sycamore Suite of the Convention Centre.

The total number of admissions to the Self Isolation Facility has exceeded 4,000 to date.

The graph below shows uptake of the Self Isolation Facility since opening in April 2020.



Self Isolation Facilities for CHO 7 Vulnerable Persons Accommodation Templebar

The following locations were provided in Templebar for vulnerable persons self isolation accommodation.

Handel's Hotel, 18 Fishamble St, Dublin 8

Contract: 12 month license. Costs to date for this accommodation: €119,298.08

Capacity of Hotel: 40 bedrooms. The Handel's hotel was vacated on 16th July 2020.

Riverhouse Hotel, 23/24 Eustace St, Dublin 2

Contract: 12 month license. Costs to date for this accommodation: €279,513.85

Capacity of Hotel: 29 bedrooms. The Riverhouse hotel was vacated on 3rd November 2021.

Temple Bar Lane, 19 Temple Lane, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

Contract: 12 month license. Costs to date for this accommodation: €1,242,376.13

Capacity of Hotel: 36 bedrooms. The Temple Bar Lane hotel was vacated on 7th October 2021.

The Address Hotel, Amiens Street, Mountjoy, Dublin 1

Contract: 6 months license - 1st January 2022 to 30th June 2022. Capacity of Hotel: 129 bedrooms.

Costs to date for this accommodation: €1,550,250.

A total of 1395 individuals (approximately 78 people per month) have used this self isolation accommodation to date.

Emergency Hospital Beds

Emergency hospital beds were arranged in the following facilities.

- City West
- University College Limerick
- National University of Ireland Galway

Citywest

The total costs for delivering the Emergency Hospital beds at Citywest was approximately €2.3million. In addition to the National Self Isolation Facility and Emergency Hospital beds. Citywest was also used as a location for Covid Testing, Vaccination Centre and as an Outpatients facility.

UL Hospitals Group Intermediate Care Facility at UL Arena, University of Limerick

The UL Hospitals Group Intermediate Care Facility operated at the UL Arena, University of Limerick, from June 8th to October 23rd 2020, closing ahead of its scheduled November 30th hand-back to the University. The ICF was conceived in partnership with the University of Limerick as a strategic contingency response during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was devised as an open-plan facility for non-COVID or post-COVID patients who were ready for discharge from acute hospital care who would benefit from ongoing rehabilitation before their eventual discharge or transfer to residential care settings. The ICF was designed as a 68-bed facility with capacity to scale to 84 beds.

However, the maximum bed capacity reached in its time of operation was 32 beds.

During the almost five months that the ICF was in operation, a total of 188 patients received care in the facility. Patients benefitted from a multi-disciplinary care model that encompassed nursing and medical staff working with Allied Health Professionals (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech & language therapy, clinical nutrition & dietetics, and medical social work) and support staff.

It should be noted that initial patient criteria were based on independent, self-caring and self-medicating post-COVID patients. However, the dependency levels of patients admitted were higher than initially anticipated. The majority of patients had complex discharge issues, requiring longer stays before final discharge home or to residential care settings. Patients ranged in age from 25 to 100 years, with a median age of 75 years. Based on a sample of 79 patients discharged, length of stay (LOS) in the ICF ranged from 1 day to 67 days, with an average LOS of 46.4 days.

National University of Ireland Galway

On 27th March Bailey Allen Hall, National University of Ireland Galway was made available to HSE for a period of 3 months (with extension if required) to use as an Intermediate Care Facility for Galway. In April 2020 initial works and fit out for the adaptation of NUIG to a field hospital were commenced in the Bailey Allen Hall, National University of Ireland Galway.

As the Covid-19 emergency progressed, the HSE Acute and Private hospitals in Galway were capable of managing the Covid-19 admissions, the requirement for additional emergency hospitals beds in Galway was reduced and the Intermediate Care Facility at NUIG was stepped down. The Intermediate Care Facility was surrendered to NUIG in June 2020 with option to retain fit-out for future use.

The costs for the initial works and fit out for the adaptation of NUIG to a field hospital were €333,420.96 (Excl VAT). There were no rental costs owed to NUIG for the step down facility. There are re-instatement costs such as repainting and other works which have yet to be confirmed. The Intermediate Care Facility at National University of Ireland Galway facility was never brought into use.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul de Freine', written in a cursive style.

Paul de Freine
Interim National Director,
Capital & Estates