



Office of the National Director of Procurement
Health Service Executive
Dr. Steevens' Hospital
Dublin 8
D08 W2A8

Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Soláthair
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Atha Clíath 8
D08 W2A8

Tel: 01 6352688 F:6352358
Email: john.swords@hse.ie

Deputy Niamh Smyth,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

08/05/2024

RE PQ 55347/23

Question

To ask the Minister for Health is it Department policy that the companies tendering ambulance services are inspected and receive on-site visits from the HSE prior to the awarding of a (Cavan Monaghan hospital ran a tender for the provision of ambulance services based on price and quality. The contract was awarded to Festimed, an event company which deals with festival event emergencies. As part of the tender the company was required to have four ambulances that are less than 5 years old .The tender process were informed that Festimed did not have these. We are informed that on the first day of the contract two weeks ago they have been using three other private ambulance companies and have been trying to buy UK ambulances. Serious questions also arise as to whether staff have been Garda vetted.). -Niamh Smyth

Response

Deputy Smyth,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) 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.

The Client Organisation, Hospital or Hospital Group will engage with the successful Tenderer to validate their capacity and capabilities and to plan transition of services to the new provider. The Client Organisation, Hospital or Hospital Group will determine whether a site visit is required to validate the Tenderer's capacity.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the National Director of Procurement on (01) 635 2688 or via john.swords@hse.ie

Yours sincerely,

John Swords | National Director of Procurement | HSE | Dr. Steevens' Hospital | Dublin 8 | D08 W2A8 |
Tel: +353 (01) 6352688 | Email: john.swords@hse.ie