



Regional Chief Environmental Health Office - South
Health Service Executive
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Deputy Johnny Guirke,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
23/4/24

Re: Response to PQs ref 15601, 15602, 15603, 15605 - Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014.

Dear Deputy Guirke,

I refer to your Parliamentary Questions below.

PQ ref 15601/24

To ask the Minister for Health what current process is in place in salons, and other relevant establishments, to ensure those under the age of eighteen are prohibited from using sunbeds; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Response: In accordance with the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014, the HSE National Environmental Health Service carries out a regular programme of inspections of premises that operate sunbeds. This programme includes mystery shopper inspections along with a rolling programme of test purchasing to ensure those under the age of eighteen are prohibited from using a sunbed. Follow up action is taken where non-compliances are identified.

PQ ref 15602/24

To ask the Minister for Health what enforcement measures are currently in place to ensure relevant traders comply with the Sunbed Notification Regulations 2015; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Response: Sunbed business operators are legally required to notify each sunbed business to the HSE National Environmental Health Service each year, paying an annual fee of €120.00. An annual notification reminder is sent to every sunbed business requiring notification. Failure by a sunbed business operator to notify the HSE National Environmental Health Service results in a Fixed Payment Notice being served on the business. If this Fixed Payment Notice is subsequently not paid by the sunbed business operator a prosecution will be instigated by the HSE National Environmental Health Service.

PQ ref 15603/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of enforcement officers working to ensure compliance with the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Response: Environmental Health Officers within the HSE National Environmental Health Service are authorised to enforce the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014, and do so as part of their routine work, which includes enforcement of other statutory duties. As of March 2024, there are 445 Environmental Health Officers working across local teams authorised to enforce this legislation.

PQ ref 15605/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of violations of the Public Health (Sunbeds) Act 2014 to date, by year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Response: Number of non-compliant Sunbed Inspection Outcomes

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024***
No of Non-Compliant Inspection Outcomes	275	268	184	217	253	94	110	176	206	16

*****YTD 18-04-2024**

Where non-compliances are identified, Environmental Health Officers take measures to build compliance in the business, up to and including taking enforcement action such as prosecution or the serving of Fixed Payment Notices.

Number of Prosecutions taken and Fixed Payment Notices Served

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
No of FPNs	0	4	9	10	10	3	5	14	17	0
No of Prosecutions	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	1

***YTD 18-4-2024**

I trust this answers your queries.

*Shane Keane,
RCEHO*

Yours sincerely,

Shane Keane
Regional Chief Environmental Health Officer