

Statutory Notifications to the Office of the Chief Inspector, Health Information and Quality Authority

Statement of purpose

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Managing organisation:	Health Information and Quality Authority
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Introduction

HIQA is an independent authority which was established to drive high quality health and social care services in Ireland. Its function is to develop standards, inspect and review health and social care services and support informed decisions on how services are delivered.

The Office of the Chief Inspector in the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) has statutory responsibility, as set out in the Health Act (2007), as amended, to register designated centres and monitor compliance with regulations in these centres. Designated centres are defined in the Health Act (2007), as amended, and comprise of residential services for people with disabilities, residential services for older people, and special care units for children.

Legal Basis

Registered providers of designated centres are required by law to submit statutory notifications to the Chief Inspector. The types of events which require a statutory notification are set out in the following regulations:

- Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children And Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013
- Health Act 2007 (Care and Welfare of Residents in Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2013
- Health Act 2007 (Care and Welfare of Children in Special Care Units) Regulations 2017

The collection of statutory notifications commenced as follows:

- Designated centres for older people: 2009
- Designated centres for people with disabilities: 2013
- Special Care Units for Children: 2018

Overall function and purpose

Registered providers are required by law to notify the Office of Chief Inspector of certain incidents or events occurring in designated centres. These events or incidents typically have an impact on the safety and or welfare of people living in designated centres.

List of data providers

Data is provided to the Office of the Chief Inspector by registered providers of designated centres. The data is provided in writing or via a secure online portal hosted by HIQA.

What is the governance and management structure regarding statutory notifications to the Office of the Chief Inspector?

The dataset containing statutory notifications is maintained within the Office of the Chief Inspector within HIQA. The collection, recording and processing of data related to statutory notifications is in accordance with HIQA's information governance policy. Access to the data is limited to those persons who have a role in assessing the information received e.g. inspectors, regional managers, senior legal advisor.

What personal data is contained in statutory notifications?

Registered providers are advised not to include any personal identifiable information relating to residents of designated centres when submitting statutory notifications. Where necessary, registered providers may submit information concerning a resident by means of a unique identifier.

What is the source of funding?

The processing of statutory notifications is a function of the Office of the Chief Inspector. Funding to manage this dataset comes from the operational budget of the regulation directorate.

What national legislation and standards must statutory notifications to the Office of the Chief Inspector adhere to?

Statutory notifications to the Office of the Chief Inspector are aligned with national legislation and standards including:

- Data Protection Act 2018
- Information Management Standards for National Health and Social Care Data Collections (2017).

Contact Details

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Our website has a dedicated section on data protection, where you can find out more about our information governance framework designed to protect and safeguard all information collected by the Office of the Chief Inspector.

Signatures of all parties responsible:



_____ **Phelim Quinn** _____

Chief Executive Officer, Health Information and Quality Authority



_____ **Mary Dunnion** _____

Chief Inspector of Social Services, Health Information and Quality Authority