

**From:** [Mary Dunnion](#)  
**To:** [Community Operations](#)  
**Subject:** communique 6  
**Date:** Friday 3 April 2020 15:50:30  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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## **Attached communique no. 6**

Good afternoon David

Trust you are well.

To help staff working in designated centres, special care units and in children's residential centres - we are setting up an **Infection Control Hub**.

The HIQA Infection control hub will provide support and guidance on:

- Suspected or outbreak preparedness
- outbreak management advice to include ;
  - resident placement
  - cohorting and special measures especially in centres where isolation is not possible
  - Staff cohorting in the management of suspected and infected cases
  - transmission based precautions
  - standard precautions

The infection control hub will also support providers and staff in understanding HSE advice and how you can apply this advice to your specific centres as well as general support to providers and staff in designated centre on infection control issues.

### **Hours of business**

Initially the infection control hub will be available from **Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**, however we will **keep this under review and will adapt depending on demand.**

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### **Structure**

The infection control hub will be staffed by inspectors with experience and expertise in infection control, delivering services and/or regulating designated centres.

Providers will be able to contact be the team in one of the following ways:

By telephone on **1800 200 000**

Or by e-mail at [DCICP@hiqa.ie](mailto:DCICP@hiqa.ie)

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### **Out of Scope**

The following areas will not be in scope

- Occupational health advice
- Public Health Advice- this will be referred to Public Health
- Medical management of staff and COVID-19 infected residents

**General designated centre & children's residential centres regulation queries, will continue to be managed by the relevant HIQA inspector**

I hope that the hub will be of benefit for all.

Kindest regards

Mary

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