Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Saturday 26 December

From Department of Health

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The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been notified of 6 additional deaths related to COVID-19.

There has been a total of 2,200 COVID-19 related deaths in Ireland.

As of midnight Friday 25 December, the HPSC has been notified of 1,296 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There has now been a total of 85,394 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

Dr Tony Holohan, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health said:

"For the second day in a row we are reporting more than a thousand confirmed cases of COVID-19. Within a few short weeks of easing measures at the beginning of December, we have now returned to the very high levels of COVID-19 circulating in the community that we have not seen since the peak of Wave Two of this disease. This is very concerning.

"While today is a positive day with the arrival of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (Comirnaty), it does not mean that we can relax our adherence to public health measures.

"We must continue to stay at home, avoid social contact where possible, avoid visiting friends and family and not have visitors to our homes. Our adherence to public health advice will remain our best defence against this disease and help us protect our vulnerable loved ones from the effects of COVID-19."

The COVID-19 Dashboard provides up-to-date information on the key indicators of COVID-19 in the community.