Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Sunday 18 April

Today's cases

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been notified of 1 additional death related to COVID-19.

There has been a total of 4,836 COVID-19 related deaths in Ireland.

As of midnight Saturday 17 April, the HPSC has been notified of 269 confirmed cases of COVID-19.

There has now been a total of 243,508* confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

(*Validation of data at the HPSC has resulted in the reclassification of 1 probable case to confirmed. The figure of 243,508 confirmed cases reflects this.)

Of the cases notified today:

- 133 are men and 131 are women
- 70% are under 45 years of age
- the median age is 31 years old

As of 8am today, 181 COVID-19 patients are hospitalised, of which 47 are in ICU. There have been 6 additional hospitalisations in the past 24 hours.

Latest update on vaccines

As of last Friday (16 April) there have been 1,188,354 doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered in Ireland:

- 838,644 people have received their first dose
- 349,710 people have received their second dose

Dr Ronan Glynn, Acting Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health said: “We have already seen the fantastic impact of vaccination amongst our healthcare workers and in our nursing homes. However, the declining incidence across all age groups in recent weeks
cannot be attributed to vaccination but rather to the enormous efforts of people across society to keep themselves and their families safe.

“If we can keep incidence relatively low over the coming weeks, vaccination will increasingly play a role in suppressing this virus. This will make it easier for all of us to balance the risks associated with COVID-19 while gradually easing public health measures.

“In the meantime, please continue to:

1. keep your distance and wear a mask
2. avoid mixing indoors with other households
3. work from home where at all possible
4. get vaccinated as soon as it's your turn, and
5. if you have any symptoms please isolate and contact a GP to arrange a test.”

The COVID-19 data hub provides up-to-date information on the key indicators of COVID-19 in the community including daily data on Ireland’s COVID-19 Vaccination Programme.

*The 5-day moving average is 369.*