Cases of COVID-19 are notified to the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) under the Infectious Disease regulations 1981. These come to the attention of the Department of Public Health from a range of sources including the Computerised Infectious Diseases Reporting (CIDR) system, the Contact Management Programme (CMP) and local hospital laboratories.

Relevant agencies informed by DPH → DPH conducts preliminary Public Health risk assessment → DPH convenes Outbreak Control Team (OCT)* → Urgent Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and other measures implemented → Investigation into outbreak origin, nature and characteristics, including epidemiological and laboratory analysis → Monitoring and management of outbreak

- Ongoing and additional IPC measures as deemed necessary to contain outbreak
- Testing of close contacts** and symptomatic casual contacts.
- **Contact tracing guidelines vary for those who have significant vaccine protection. Please see here for further information.
- Once off mass testing of employees is sometimes indicated to determine size / scope of problem
- Positive cases, even if vaccinated and asymptomatic, self-isolate for full 10 days. Close contacts** identified and advised re restricted movements for 14 days with Day 0 and Day 10 test. If Day 10 test result ‘Not Detected’ and asymptomatic, can end restricted movements.
- **Contact tracing guidelines vary for those who have significant vaccine protection.

Outbreak is declared over when no further cases of new infection identified for a period of 28 days

*Example of OCT membership
- Public Health
- HPSC
- Microbiology
- Management
- Leader Worker Representatives
- Environmental Health
- Food Safety Authority of Ireland
- DAFM
- Occupational Health
- Health and Safety Authority

Please note in the context of a pandemic, resources may not reach to an OCT for every individual outbreak