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**Ms. Phil Ni Sheaghda**  
**General Secretary**  
**INMO**  
**The Whitworth Building**  
**North Brunswick Street**  
**Dublin 7**

05 January 2022

**Re: Antigen Testing – Cost to Staff**

Dear Phil,

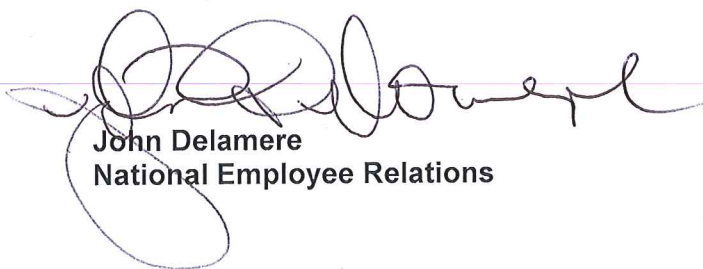
I refer to our discussion of yesterday and your correspondence to the National Director of HR of December 24<sup>th</sup>.

I have checked out the issue raised in your correspondence in respect of costs arising to staff. The position of the HSE is that all close contacts, including staff where relevant, are required to undertake tests. Where such a situation arises, HCW's will be mailed tests via post in the same way as generally applies. There is no cost arising in such circumstances.

In addition to this, all local health facilities have been advised to ensure that appropriate supply of antigen tests are available for usage as required by staff members and measures to ensure that there is an adequate and sustainable availability of such tests for health care staff (free of charge) are underway and will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

By way of summary, there is no requirement for health sector staff who are close contacts to have to procure antigen testing materials at their own cost. I trust that this provides the required clarifications sought in your correspondence.

**Yours Sincerely,**



**John Delamere**  
**National Employee Relations**