

QUESTION NO: 277

DÁIL QUESTION addressed to the Minister for Justice and Equality
(Deputy Frances Fitzgerald)
by Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív
for **WRITTEN** on **Tuesday, 15th December, 2015.**

• To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality why a letter was not accepted by a representative from her Department from a group that visited her Department on 22 September 2015 in relation to an apology the group was seeking from the Government for what occurred in the mother and baby homes in the past; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

- Éamon Ó Cuív

REPLY.

I can advise the Deputy that it is the Department's standard practice for safety and security reasons to ensure that the front doors of the building remain closed during protests. Where a letter is intended for the Minister, the Garda on duty outside accepts delivery and passes it, via the service staff, to the Minister's Office. That is what happened on the 22nd of September when a protest was held by a group seeking an apology from the Government for what occurred in the Mother and Baby Homes in the past.

I can also advise the Deputy that my Department issued a comprehensive response to the group on the issues raised in the letter.