Statements by the Commissioner for the Citizen on the incentives to increase vaccination coverage

The interest of companies and organisations to provide vaccination incentives, reinforces the wider effort of the government to increase vaccination coverage among young people, said today Mr Panayiotis Sentonas, Commissioner for the Citizen.

Speaking to the press this afternoon at the Presidential Palace, Mr Sentonas noted: "in order to reinforce the effort to increase vaccination coverage among young people up to 30 years old, the interest expressed by some private undertakings and organisations of public law to offer incentives to promote vaccination, within the framework of their social corporate responsibility, has been recorded.

This is why the website <u>www.besafe.gov.cy</u> has been created, which provides information vis-à-vis the incentives offered to date, in order to inform and to facilitate those interested. The list of the incentives is also posted on the Press and Information Office's official coronavirus website (www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus).

The interest of companies and organisations to provide vaccination incentives, reinforces the wider effort of the government to increase vaccination coverage among young people, who, through vaccination, primarily protect themselves and at the same time, contribute to the expansion of immunity in the community.

The list, which is available on the websites I just mentioned, includes 13 companies and organisations. Those interested can also find a description of the incentives as well as the relevant link with information on how to obtain them.

Most of the incentives are for those aged between 18 and 30. Some organisations have set a different age limit, which does not exceed, however, the age of 30."

Replying to a press question, Mr Sentonas said that "with the exception of one of these companies, which has set a time limit for the vaccination to be administered, there is no time limit set by the rest of the companies. Namely, young people are eligible, irrespective of when they have been vaccinated".

Asked about how applicants would be prioritized, Mr Sentonas said that the procedures are described in detail on the aforementioned websites.

"For each one of these incentives there is a specific way to obtain it, and this can be found in detail by following the link to the companies' websites" he pointed out.

Replying to another question, he said that "these incentives are offered by the companies and organisations themselves, but we shall surely be in contact with

them over the next period of time, so that these incentives can be offered in the right way and by following the correct procedures".

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