



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784100

23rd October 2019

Ms. Mary Butler TD
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 42165/19

To ask the Minister for Health the status of the provision of podiatry services in County Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 42134/19

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding podiatry services provided by the HSE in County Carlow; the status of the service going forward; the number of persons on the waiting list for the service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Butler,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions which were submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following response outlines the composite position.

There are currently 2 podiatrists providing services across Carlow and Kilkenny, 1 of whom is employed through Diabetes Ireland.

The Carlow/Kilkenny Podiatry Service accepts referrals predominantly from General Practitioners, Community Nurses and Allied Health Professionals with access based on prioritisation criteria i.e. individuals with more complex needs who are high priority.

There are currently 40 new referrals on the waiting list and 614 people waiting for a review appointment for Carlow/Kilkenny podiatry services.

The demand for this service continues to grow in particular from patients with diabetes and vascular and neurological conditions. The profile of those being seen by the service has changed in that there is an increase in the numbers of referrals with Diabetic Foot Disease. The HSE is continually reviewing waiting lists and resources to meet the demands of the service.

The HSE continues to review the provision of podiatry service in the Carlow area.

Should you have any further queries in relation to same, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anna Marie Lanigan
Head of Service-Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare