

08<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 53357/21**

**"To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure the resumption of chiropody services for public patients in Bantry, County Cork."**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

There is indeed a shortage of Podiatrists in West Cork. There is currently a vacancy in Bantry arising from a retirement.

There have been additional resources allocated to West Cork Podiatry Service which has resulted in two Senior Posts being available for this Network. One of these posts has been advertised through the National Recruitment Service so far, but unfortunately, there was no interest expressed. The other post will be advertised through NRS in the coming weeks. We also intend to hold a local recruitment campaign for any vacant posts remaining unfilled through NRS in CHO4 with a robust communication campaign to maximise out on attracting eligible candidates.

In circumstances whereby there is a significant change in clinical presentation, individuals are advised to consult with their General Practitioner.

We will continue our endeavours to fill these vacancies as speedily as possible.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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**Priscilla Lynch**  
**Head of Service - Primary Care,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**