

15th November, 2021

Mr. Michael Collins T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 54478/21

"To ask the Minister for Health the plans are in place for the appointment of a HSE podiatrist to replace a person (details supplied) who retired in February 2021 in the Bantry area and who has not yet been replaced leaving hundreds of elderly vulnerable persons without podiatry services; and if he will make a statement on the matter."
Details supplied: A.H.

Dear Deputy Collins,

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.

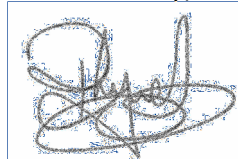
There is indeed a shortage of Podiatrists in West Cork. There is currently a vacancy in Bantry arising from a retirement.

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,



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