



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.  
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,  
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,  
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](mailto:@hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682  
E: [community.primarycare@hse.ie](mailto:community.primarycare@hse.ie)

8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Deputy Pauline Tully,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.**

**PQ 9907/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of podiatrists employed by the HSE by CHO area in each of the years 2017 to 2021; the shortfall in podiatrists employed by the HSE by CHO area in tabular form; the number of podiatrist posts planned in Budget 2021; the number of these posts that were not filled; the reason that posts were not filled; the status of his plans to improve podiatry services in each CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**–Pauline Tully**

Dear Deputy Ó Cathasaigh,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 9907/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Detailed information on number of HSE staff grades is publically available and can be found at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/>. The latest available staffing data is at January 2022 when there were 55 Podiatrists & Chiropodists Whole Time Equivalents (WTEs) in Primary Care across the Community Health Organisations.

The 55 Podiatrists & Chiropodists at January 2022 represents an increase of 25 WTEs since December 2020. The HSE does not collate data on the number of vacant posts or posts that were not filled.

The HSE has been working on developing a national standardised podiatry service across the country. This is being developed with the recruitment of podiatrist positions in the community health networks as well as specialist podiatrists to provide care to the persons diagnosed with diabetes. The HSE are also committed to developing appropriate governance structures throughout the country to meet the needs of the population.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations