

21<sup>st</sup> April, 2022

Ms Holly Cairns, TD.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 15058/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the status of feeding eating, drinking and swallowing impairments pathways for assessment and treatment in CHO4.”**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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

In Childrens Disability Services there is a care pathway for all children’s referrals for assessment and treatment of feeding, eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties (FEDS) through the Childrens Disability Network Teams. Referrals to the CDNTs are received and assigned to suitably skilled therapists as appropriate.

FEDS assessments may be prioritised if the referral indicates the need to do so; where there are urgent concerns therapy follows directly on from assessment.

I trust this clarifies the situation for you.

Yours sincerely,



**Ms. Majella Daly,**  
**Head of Disability Services,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**