

3rd May, 2023

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

**PQ ref 16511/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the number of lactation specialist roles and/or public health nurses with a specialisation in lactation that it is planned to establish and fill in each LHO in CHO4 during 2023."**

**PQ ref 16512/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the staffing and locations for the provision of lactation services in each LHO in CHO4."**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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

There are 3.30 lactation consultants appointed to the CHO4 area, distributed as follows: 0.5 South Lee area, 0.5 in North Cork, 0.5 In Kerry, 0.8 in West Cork and 1.0 in North Lee. There are in excess of 20 PHN Community Midwives who are certified IBLCC Lactation consultants also working across the CHO.

There are no plans at this time to appoint additional lactation consultants to the CHO4 area in 2023.

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**