

26th January, 2023

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

**PQ ref 2292/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the total budget per month and the amount spent per year on paediatric aids and appliances by an organisation (details supplied) in CHO4 in each of the years 2020 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."**  
**Detail Supplied: "Resource Allocation Group"**

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.

Please be advised that there is no available data in relation to figure spent for 2020 as data was not broken down by adults and children prior to 2021. The figures outlined below is for specialised equipment presented and approved at RAG committees and is not inclusive of figure spent on standard stock.

|       | Total Spend on Paediatric Aids & Appliances in CKCH (CHO 4) by RAG Committee 2021-2022 |            |
|-------|--|------------|
| RAG   | KERRY  | Cork       |
| 2021  | €59,094  | € 522,642  |
| 2022  | € 282,594  | € 947,574  |
| TOTAL | €341,688   | €1,470,216 |

The HSE Resource Allocation Group (RAG) usually meets monthly and all Medical and Surgical Aid and Appliance prescriptions (new and waitlisted) presented to the group continue to be reviewed. Funding, which is finite, is allocated to purchase items that are identified as highest priority taking all the circumstances of each individual concerned into account. The HSE are only in a position to purchase equipment within available resources and clinical demands on the budget remain high. There is no specific budget for aids and appliances with respect to paediatric patients. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare prioritise the funding for paediatric patients within the overall Primary Care budget.

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