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20th May 2025

Mr Cian O'Callaghan TD Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Email: Cian.OCallaghan@oireachtas.ie

PQ 22301/25 – "To ask the Minister for Health if she will ensure that the previously planned specialised multi-professional team for auditory processing disorder is delivered in CHO9; if there are plans to provide auditory processing services nationally; if she will provide interim pathways for access to assistive technology; and if she will make a statement on the matter" - Cian O'Callaghan TD

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

As you may be aware, Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) is a very complex condition to diagnose and requires a multidisciplinary team as per international best practice standards.

Unfortunately there is no service for APD in the HSE.

The funding for the Audiology Multi-Disciplinary Team was approved at the end of 2023 by Pobal (https://www.pobal.ie/) the government body that funds communities and local agencies to achieve social inclusion and support community development. Regrettably due to the HSE recruitment embargo this did not progress and unfortunately, HSE will not be in a position to continue with this project at this time.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Karina McDermott Acting General Manager Primary Care

Dublin North City & West