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Deputy John Curran, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Curran,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 19/16686

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in receipt of home support services to date; the number that are approved and waiting for home support services for each CHO area; the number of persons waiting for more than one, three and six months, respectively for home support services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The 2019 National Service Plan 2019 provides for the following;

- 17.9m home support hours to be delivered to 53,000 people inclusive of 410,000 hours/550 home support packages funded under the Winter Initiative 2018/2019
- Intensive Home Care Packages delivered to approximately 235 people with approximately 360,000 hours delivered in the full year

Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to the end of March 2019. As of this date, 4,215,754 home support hours were delivered nationally while 6,238 people were waiting for funding for their home support service. Please see Appendix 1 below for a breakdown of these by CHO.

Data in the detailed format requested (i.e. number waiting more than one, three and six months respectively) is not currently collated nationally. While the information is available locally from client records, it would require considerable resources to gather this information centrally.

The Department is currently engaged in a detailed process to determine what type of home care scheme is best for Ireland. This process will consider the future design of both the funding and regulation systems for these essential services.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Older Persons Services - Operations