



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta
Tel: 061 483245
Email: olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

Office of the Assistant National Director - Operations
Services for Older People
Tel: 061 483245
Email: olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

19 December 2019

Deputy Anne Rabbitte, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Rabbitte,

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 51211/19

To ask the Minister for Health the expected number of hours to be provided for home help in 2020 in each CHO; the estimated level of funding for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 51212/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided by external agencies by county in each of the years 2016 to 2018 and to date in 2019, in tabular form; the amount spent on external agencies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Home Support Services are an important component of the provision of service to older people with assessed needs and to support them in their choice of living in their own home and community. The HSE, working within its available resources, has sought to maintain and when possible to expand the range and volume of services available to support people to remain in their own homes, to prevent early admission to long term residential care and to support people to return to their homes following an acute hospital admission. The Home Support resource is used to its maximum effect as part of each individual recipient's care plan.

The 2019 National Service Plan 2019 provides for;

- 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

The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE and having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the services from those people with assessed needs.

Home Support services for older people are provided either by directly employed staff or by voluntary and private providers who have formal tender arrangements with the HSE to deliver the services. The type of support



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provided includes personal care and, where appropriate, essential household duties relating to the client's assessed needs.

- With the approval of the Department of Health, the HSE has moved to a single funded home support service from 1st January 2018. The funding for the home help service and the home care package scheme has been combined into a single service – the Home Support Service for Older People. **Appendix 1** below, details the home support target 2020 by CHO.
- **Appendix 2** below, details the indirect home support activity - 2016 and 2017 in terms of Home Help and Home Care Packages provided and for 2018 and 2019 (October YTD) in terms of Home Support hours provided.

The Department is currently engaged in a detailed process to develop a new stand-alone, statutory scheme for the financing and regulation of home support services. Developing a new statutory scheme will be an important step in ensuring that the system operates in a consistent and fair manner for all those who need home support services. The Sláintecare Implementation Strategy commits to the introduction of the new scheme in 2021.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Older Persons Services – Operations

Appendix 1 – Home Support Target 2020

CHO	Target Home Support Hours 2020
National Total	18,670,000
CHO 1	1,791,320
CHO 2	2,053,320
CHO 3	1,546,320
CHO 4	2,823,200
CHO 5	2,033,460
CHO 6	1,406,780
CHO 7	2,256,500
CHO 8	1,791,320
CHO 9	2,967,780

Appendix 2 – Direct & Indirect Hours – 2016 to 2019 YTD

CHO	Home Support					
	2019			2018		
	Total Oct YTD	Total Direct Hours	Total Indirect Hours	Total Dec YTD	Total Direct Hours	Total Indirect Hours
CHO 1	1,398,108	1,019,342	378,765	1,694,036	1,159,125	534,911
CHO 2	1,530,810	729,280	801,530	1,787,709	872,444	915,265
CHO 3	1,268,236	506,649	761,587	1,456,803	650,884	805,919
CHO 4	2,316,446	1,918,280	398,166	2,707,162	2,289,289	417,873
CHO 5	1,640,943	1,208,134	432,808	1,927,217	1,456,677	470,539
CHO 6	1,135,474	-	1,135,474	1,301,981	-	1,301,981
CHO 7	1,641,551	395,113	1,246,438	1,880,560	291,324	1,589,236
CHO 8	1,405,322	677,616	727,706	1,616,808	787,214	829,594
CHO 9	2,214,032	-	2,214,032	2,758,176	-	2,758,176
Total	14,550,920	6,454,415	8,096,505	17,130,453	7,506,958	9,623,495

CHO	Homehelp Hours					
	2017			2016		
	Total Dec YTD	Total Direct Hours	Total Indirect Hours	Total Dec YTD	Total Direct Hours	Total Indirect Hours
CHO 1	1,483,664	1,145,834	337,830	1,462,017	1,146,504	315,513
CHO 2	1,401,158	830,478	570,680	1,384,165	793,656	590,509
CHO 3	925,776	631,081	294,695	960,387	645,512	314,875
CHO 4	1,942,100	1,887,717	54,383	1,983,144	1,974,647	8,497
CHO 5	1,149,816	989,507	160,309	1,213,568	1,062,421	151,147
CHO 6	346,153	8,257	337,896	388,952	-	388,952
CHO 7	767,213	448,679	318,534	714,997	302,155	412,842
CHO 8	1,416,351	873,258	543,092	1,294,111	737,977	556,134
CHO 9	1,358,589	59,062	1,299,527	1,145,393	-	1,145,393
Total	10,790,819	6,873,875	3,916,945	10,546,733	6,662,872	3,883,861