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19 December 2019

Deputy Danny Healy-Rae, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

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 51359/19

To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the new homecare packages in the past six months by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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. The number of people in receipt of home support at any time will vary having regard to the value of the individual home supports approved and as clients cease and new clients with different value home support are approved and commenced.

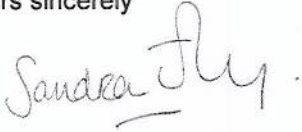
Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to the end of October 2019. As of this date, 14,550,922 home support hours were delivered nationally to 51,404 people. A total of 12,773 clients have commenced a home support service since January 2020 with 7,016 clients commencing a service in the 6-month period April to October. Please see Table 1 below for Number of New Home Support Clients per County - April to October 2019, as requested. Please note that the data we hold is collated using the LHO system (Local Health Offices). The majority of the LHOs are counties whereas in more densely populated areas such as Dublin and Cork, those areas are broken down through multiple LHOs.

The level of activity and associated costs in relation to home support is monitored on an on-going basis by the Chief Officers across their CHOs and with the Head of Operations Services for Older People nationally to ensure that those with the greatest needs are supported and that the overall expenditure on home support services by the HSE does not exceed the available funding.

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 Service (Operations)

Table 1 - Number of New Home Support Clients per County - April to October 2019

CHO	LHO	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	22	7	12	13	10	27	91
CHO 1	Donegal	40	20	13	9	10	17	109
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	1	11	7	23	68	112	222
		63	38	32	45	88	156	422
CHO 2	Galway	64	69	101	61	61	61	417
CHO 2	Mayo	44	49	44	28	53	39	257
CHO 2	Roscommon	12	17	23	20	20	20	112
		120	135	168	109	134	120	786
CHO 3	Clare	24	20	27	22	25	25	143
CHO 3	Limerick	60	51	24	18	16	22	191
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limeric	49	32	18	20	19	29	167
		133	103	69	60	60	76	501
CHO 4	Kerry	49	18	40	55	49	52	263
CHO 4	North Cork	22	16	19	14	17	13	101
CHO 4	North Lee	34	32	32	20	38	36	192
CHO 4	South Lee	52	44	50	45	49	45	285
CHO 4	West Cork	20	9	12	17	29	16	103
		177	119	153	151	182	162	944
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	39	26	29	6	16	31	147
CHO 5	South Tipperary	45	42	8	7	5	8	115
CHO 5	Waterford	8	17	17	7	17	12	78
CHO 5	Wexford	81	43	16	19	34	28	221
		173	128	70	39	72	79	561
CHO 6	Dublin South East	56	34	34	27	28	40	219
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	132	117	117	55	59	67	547
CHO 6	Wicklow	27	36	23	32	37	38	193
		215	187	174	114	124	145	959
CHO 7	Dublin South City	46	50	44	27	47	72	286
CHO 7	Dublin South West	67	51	64	85	53	49	369
CHO 7	Dublin West	41	47	39	17	38	37	219
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	32	29	31	28	70	41	231
		186	177	178	157	208	199	1,105
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	84	40	57	24	42	24	271
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	42	23	6	8	6	4	89
CHO 8	Louth	42	42	14	14	17	24	153
CHO 8	Meath	39	14	13	7	6	14	93
		207	119	90	53	71	66	606
CHO 9	Dublin North	66	44	44	88	67	67	376
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	52	58	84	67	58	58	377
CHO 9	Dublin North West	41	34	50	153	55	46	379
		159	136	178	308	180	171	1,132
National Total		1,433	1,142	1,112	1,036	1,119	1,174	7,016