

20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Deputy Michael Healy Rae T.D.,  
 Dáil Éireann,  
 Dublin 2

**PQ 52706/19:**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if he will address a matter regarding home help (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**Details Supplied: Minister could you please comment on the following. There seems to be a massive problem in trying to get home helps to actually do the work that is required in Co Kerry in taking care of and giving assistance to people in their own homes. Can you please clarify what is the situation with regard to the amount of hours of home help that is available in Kerry for the period of Jan 2019 - June 2019 and June 2019 - September 2019.**

Dear Deputy Healy Rae,

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.

The table shows the total number of hours delivered to Service Users for the period January 2019 to September 2019:

2019	TOTAL HOURS
JAN	52,716
FEB	51,477
MAR	53,003
APR	54,688
MAY	54,282
JUN	53,699
JUL	55,660
AUG	54,264
SEP	54,691
	<b>484,480</b>

Each applicant is assessed for Home Support and if they meet the criteria then a service is allocated. A Home Support Care Plan is drawn up and the Healthcare Support Assistant or Assistants are advised of the specific service required. The Public Health Nurse reviews clients regularly and decreases or increases the service depending on assessed clinical need.

The ultimate aim of the Home Support Service is to assist people to remain in their home for as long as that service can meet their needs and is appropriate for them.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ber Power". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'B' and 'P'.

**Ms. Ber Power**  
**Acting Head of Social Care – Services for Older People**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

