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Mr Brendan Smith T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

13<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Re: PQ ref 23668/19 - SFOPPQ19052 - Provision of Additional Home Support Services

Dear Deputy Smith,

## PQ Details

To ask the Minister for Health when additional resources will be provided for home support services in view of the delays in providing the service in areas such as counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Brendan Smith

I refer to your recent correspondence received in my office regarding additional resources for the provision of Home Support in Counties Cavan and Monaghan. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Breakdown of Home Support figures to the end of May	
Total Number of clients in receipt of Home Support Cavan Monaghan at the end of May 2019	1189
Total number of hours Home Support delivered to Clients across Cavan Monaghan. * Total hours delivered figures are not available for May at present.	35292.63hrs. (April* )
Total number waiting on additional services	187
Total number waiting on new services	120

While the resources for the provision of home support are substantial, they are finite. The aim is to be as responsive as possible to all applications; however, given the changing demographics and limitation of the resource, delays can occur. In this context, those clients who are assessed and who are not being provided immediately with a service, are prioritised based on the clinical assessment and are placed on a waiting list for a resource as it becomes available.

I am not currently in a position to advise if additional resources will be made available to the service in 2019. I can advise that the number of people waiting for funding for home support services reflects a point in time. Those people who are on the waiting list are reviewed, as funding becomes available, to ensure that individual cases continue to be dealt with on a priority basis within the available resources and as determined by the local front line staff who know and understand the clients' needs, and who undertake regular reviews of those care needs to ensure that the services being provided remain appropriate.

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,

Martin Collum,

Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta, Rannán Cúraim Shóisialaigh, CHO 1.

General Manager, Services for Older Persons. Social Care Division CHO 1.