



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta
Tel: 061 483245
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Office of the Assistant National Director - Operations
Services for Older People
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26/06/2019

Deputy Stephen S. Donnelly, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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 24247/19 & 24253/19

To ask the Minister for Health if there are insurance liability risks for recipients of homecare supports if a care giver alleges they were injured on their property; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 24248/19 & 24254/19

To ask the Minister for Health if HSE employed home carers and or privately employed home carers are covered for injuries sustained while they are at the homes of their clients; 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.

Home Support services for older people, funded by the HSE, 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 that is provided includes personal care and, where appropriate, essential household duties relating to the client's needs.

HSE directly employed home support staff, similar to all other grades of HSE staff, are covered under the Clinical Indemnity Scheme for any injuries allegedly sustained during the course of his/her duties.

In accordance with Schedule 7 of Part 2 of the Service Arrangement signed by each home support Approved Provider; a provider is obliged to have the following insurance arrangements in place:

1. Public Liability insurance with a limit of indemnity of €6,500,000 (€6.5 million) for any one claim or series of claims arising in a calendar year and with an indemnity to the Executive arising from the provision of the Services, which insurance will also cover claims arising from the activities of any sub-contractor engaged by the Provider.
2. Employers Liability insurance with a limit of indemnity of €12,700,000 (€12.7million) for any one claim or series of claims arising in a calendar year and with an indemnity to the Executive arising from the provision of the Services.



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3. Motor Insurance (if services involve use of motor vehicle by service provider on business of the HSE) with a third party property damage limit of:
- €2,600,000 (€2.6million) where Service Provider turnover is under €40 Million
 - €6,500,000 (€6.5million) where Service Provider turnover is €40 Million or over
- any one occurrence with an indemnity to the HSE arising from the use of motor vehicle in the provision of the Services.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director – Operations
Services for Older People