



10<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Deputy Louise O'Reilly**  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Dear Deputy O'Reilly,**

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 ref 25507/19**

**To ask the Minister for Health the way in which the €19.4 million indicated in the HSE national service plan for full year cost in 2019 of 2018 home support levels including the 2017 to 2018 winter plan is to be spent; and the way in which it has been spent to date in tabular form.**

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

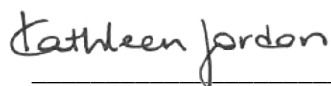
The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE and having regard to the available resources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

Of the approximate €29m in additional funding allocated in 2019 a total of €10m relates to Winter Initiative 2019 with the balance relating to costs associated with delivery existing levels of service, including the full year cost in 2019, of hours provided in 2018 under the previous year's Winter Initiative. Full year 2019 target of 410,000 hours funded under the Winter Initiative has been allocated to the CHOs, breakdown per CHO at Table 1 below.

**Table 1 – Allocation of Target hours associated with Winter Initiative**

CHO	Target Hrs WI 2019
CHO 1	26,860
CHO 2	26,860
CHO 3	26,860
CHO 4	26,860
CHO 5	26,860
CHO 6	55,090
CHO 7	96,875
CHO 8	26,860
CHO 9	96,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,000</b>

Yours sincerely,



On behalf of  
**Sandra Tuohy**  
Assistant National Director – Operations  
Services for Older People

