



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Bainisteoir Ginearálta,
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta,
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Deputy Charlie McConalogue
Dáil Éireann
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Kildare Street
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4th July 2019

PQ ref 27158/19

1)The current number of staff associated with the home help service in Donegal 2)The current number of clients currently being catered for by the Home Help Service 3)The current number of people that are currently awaiting home help hours 4) The current number of people on a HSE panel awaiting employment with the Home Help Service

To ask the Minister for Health the figures in relation to a service (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McConalogue

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.

Please see below responses to your questions regarding Donegal Home Support Services.

- 1) Donegal Home Support Services comprises of clinical, managerial and administrative staff, as well as Home Help Workers who make up the substantial majority of staff resources. There are approximately 493 Home Help Workers and 28 clinical, management and administrative staff across all of the designated PHN areas in the county.
- 2) County Donegal has currently in the region of 2,000 clients. This number is fluid and will alter on a daily basis. Currently as a county, Donegal Home Support Services maintains more than twice the national average of older persons at home as opposed to long-term care options. This is managed by substantial individual care packages. Although older persons (aged 65+) make up the significant majority of these clients, it also includes services across child and adult disability, palliative care and people aged under 65 with early onset dementia.

- 3) As of July 1, 2019 there are 208 clients approved and waiting a home help service. This equates to 938.75 additional hours per week.
- 4) Recruitment and induction occurs on a continuous basis targeting areas with less capacity and emerging need. A worker is generally appointed in their own locality as work becomes available. Not all successful candidates when approached accept the job and recruitment in some pockets is very challenging.

Current panel figures per local Home Support Offices are as follows:

14 Letterkenny
8 Ardara
8 Bunrana
10 Falcarragh
12 Donegal Town
13 Lifford

I trust that this is of assistance, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely



Martin Collum
General Manager
Services for Older Persons
CHO1