



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
- Cúram Sláinte Pobail  
Teach Darach, Ascaill na gCrann Teil  
Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara  
W91KDC2

t: 045 880419

Health Service Executive  
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow  
- Community Healthcare  
Oak House, Lime Tree Avenue  
Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare  
W91KDC2

31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

**Deputy O'Loughlin**  
**Dail Eireann**  
**Dublin 2**

**PQ 20673/19**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in County Kildare approved and awaiting a home care package; and if he will make a statement on the matter

-Fiona O'Loughlin

**Dear Deputy**

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.

Although the Home Support budget for Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare is significant, it is finite, and we are required to operate within the budget allocated to us. As such we were unable to sustain the rate of approval of home care packages resulting in an increase in our waiting lists. We are dependent on hours to return to our HCP system through recycling in order to approve funding for those persons on our waiting lists across the area.

Notwithstanding this, we have seen a considerable increase since 2018 in the rate of approvals for new and additional HCP hours since recycling commenced in February 2019.

I am advised that a total of 159 applications for both new and increased HCP hours have been approved in the Kildare West Wicklow area since 01/01/2019. For the period January to April 2019

51 new HCPs were approved

87 requests on waiting list KWW

21 applications for increase of HCP on waiting list KWW

In total there are 435 active home care packages on the KWW data base and 280 on the waiting list.

We are endeavouring to network with our community colleagues in attempting to ensure that the most vulnerable clients on our HCP waiting lists are identified for allocation of home supports.

We hope that this, coupled with the increased rate in approvals, will assist in supporting those most in need of HCP hours to remain safely in their communities.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but if you have any queries or should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Yours sincerely**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Cuffe', written over a horizontal line.

**Carol Cuffe**  
*Head of Social Care  
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare*