



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

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

29<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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

**PQ 20842/19**

To ask the Minister for Health if the delays being experienced in the delivery of homecare packages in the CHO7 areas in counties Kildare and Wicklow will be addressed; 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.

As of 30/04/2019 Kildare West Wicklow has delivered a total of 224,724 home support hours in the first 4 months of 2019.

A total of 2,147 persons were in receipt of direct and indirect home support services on that date.

Although significant, our budget is finite. Due to the overwhelming demands for Home Care Packages (HCP) that continue to rise, a waiting list remains in effect. 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 CHO7.

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.

Although our waiting lists remain at 274 persons they continue to reduce.

A total of 158 applications for both new and increased HCP hours have been approved in the Kildare West Wicklow area since 01/01/2019. 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