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Tony McLoughlin T.D. Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2.

4th June 2019

RE: PQ 20899/19

Dear Deputy McLoughlin

I refer to the above-mentioned Parliamentary Question.

Question

"To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is such a long delay for applications to be decided upon for home help in counties Sligo and Leitrim; the funding allocated for home help in the counties in each of the years 2015 to 2018 and to date in 2019; if additional funding will be provided for the provision of home help to sick and elderly persons in the counties for the remaining months in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Tony McLoughlin T.D.

Answer

While the resources for the provision of Home Support are substantial, they are finite. The aim is to be as responsive as possible to all applications. However, given the changing demographics and limitation of the resource, delays can occur. In this context, those clients who are assessed and approved for Home Support by the Home Support Governance committee, and where funding is not available immediately to provide the service, are placed on a priority based Home Support waiting list awaiting available resources. Those who are at end of life are prioritised for service.

Home Support hours provided in Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan in:

2015	2016	2017	2018	1/1/9 to 30/4/19
441,850.20	433,069	407,295	488,074	162,115

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Worth Cally

Martin Collum,

Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta, Rannán Cúraim Shóisialaigh, CHO 1.

General Manager, Services for Older Persons. Social Care Division CHO 1.