



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
- Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Teach Darach, Ascaill na gCrann Teil
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Health Service Executive
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow
- Community Healthcare
Oak House, Lime Tree Avenue
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12th June 2019

Deputy John Curran
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2

PQ 23036/19

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 52 of 5 February 2019, the progress he has made in examining the disparity of home support services for the elderly in CHO Area 7; and if he will make a statement on the matter

-John Curran

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 significant funding is allocated to CHO7 in respect of Home Support, it is finite. There is a requirement to remain within our allocated budget.

The current resources available to address the waiting list in CHO7 is through recycling which we commenced early in 2019. As such we are dependent on hours returning to our Home Support services through discontinuation of home support packages in order to allocate services to applicants on our waiting lists.

In managing the waiting lists that are in place, we will continue to attempt to prioritise those persons most at risk in the community, in partnership with front line staff who are best placed to identify those persons who are most vulnerable.

The rate of referral to HCPs continues to rise and we have seen a significant increase in demand for the service which is unprecedented. As an indication of the increased levels of demand, 201 applications were made to HCP services in CHO7 in May 2019 alone.

Despite the challenges we face with overwhelming demands for the services, the following has been achieved;

- A total of 518 home support applications have been processed year to date.
- In addition to this we have seen a reduction in our waiting lists from 1224 persons waiting for funding for Home Support hours on 31st January 2019 to 1080 persons waiting funding for Home Support at 31st May 2019.
- A total of 6374 persons are now in receipt of Home Support Services in CHO7.

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

David Beegan
General Manager Older Persons Services