



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett,
Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An Mhí
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29th November, 2019

Mr. Eoin Ó Broin T.D.,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 44942/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for home help and or support in County Longford; and the number of home help hours cut per week due to staff illness or shortages in the county - Eoin Ó Broin.

Dear Deputy Ó Broin,

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. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

I can confirm that there are 53 clients on the home support waiting list in Longford.

In relation to the second part of your query, it is unfortunate that from time to time the home support service has to manage unscheduled leave by staff. However, no hours to existing clients have been cut due to sick leave or shortages. At all times we strive to maintain existing services to clients.

Home Support Services is a non-statutory scheme, the aim of which is to support an Older Person living at home. Access to services is via assessment by HSE professionals. The quantity of services is limited to available budget. Currently Midlands Louth Meath Community Healthcare Organisation are profiling our priority home support clients based on assessed needs and are working to provide services based on that priority profile.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Bennett
Chief Officer CHO Area 8