



Oifig an Cheannasaí Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse - Oibríochtaí
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta
Tel: 061 483245
Email: olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

Office of the Assistant National Director - Operations
Services for Older People
Tel: 061 483245
Email: olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

26th November 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 46924/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided in 2018; and the overall cost for the hours in tabular form - Louise O'Reilly.

PQ 46925/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided in 2018 provided by private home help providers; and the overall cost for the hours in tabular form - Louise O'Reilly.

PQ 46926/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided in 2018 provided by the HSE; and the overall cost for the hours in tabular form - Louise O'Reilly.

PQ 46927/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided in 2018 provided by the not-for-profit sector; and the overall cost for the hours in tabular form - Louise O'Reilly.

Home Support Services are an important component of the provision of service to older people with assessed needs and to support them in their choice of living in their own home and community. The HSE, working within its available resources, has sought to maintain and when possible to expand the range and volume of services available to support people to remain in their own homes, to prevent early admission to long term residential care and to support people to return to their homes following an acute hospital admission. The Home Support resource is used to its maximum effect as part of each individual recipient's care plan.

The 2019 National Service Plan 2019 provides for;

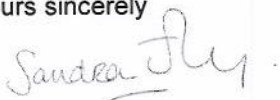
- 17.9m home support hours to be delivered to 53,000 people inclusive of 410,000 hours / 550 home support packages funded under the Winter Initiative 2018/2019
- Intensive Home Care Packages delivered to approximately 235 people with approximately 360,000 hours delivered in the full year

The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE and having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the services from those people with assessed needs.

The data you requested in relation to the split between "private providers and the not-for-profit sector" is not currently collated nationally. While this may be available locally, it would take considerable resources to collate this nationally. The Indirect Home Support metrics we collect combines all approved external provision, including services provided by both voluntary/not for profit and private/for profit providers and is collated as "Indirect Provision". Please see Table 1 below for a breakdown of Direct & Indirect Activity for 2018.

The Department is currently engaged in a detailed process to develop a new stand-alone, statutory scheme for the financing and regulation of home support services. Developing a new statutory scheme will be an important step in ensuring that the system operates in a consistent and fair manner for all those who need home support services. The Sláintecare Implementation Strategy commits to the introduction of the new scheme in 2021.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Older Persons Services – Operations

Table 1 – Home Support Activity – 2018

| Home Support Hours - 2018 | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| CHO | Total Dec YTD | Total Direct Hours | Total Indirect Hours |
| CHO 1 | 1,694,036 | 1,159,125 | 534,911 |
| CHO 2 | 1,787,709 | 872,444 | 915,265 |
| CHO 3 | 1,456,803 | 650,884 | 805,919 |
| CHO 4 | 2,707,162 | 2,289,289 | 417,873 |
| CHO 5 | 1,927,217 | 1,456,677 | 470,539 |
| CHO 6 | 1,301,981 | - | 1,301,981 |
| CHO 7 | 1,880,560 | 291,324 | 1,589,236 |
| CHO 8 | 1,616,808 | 787,214 | 829,594 |
| CHO 9 | 2,758,176 | - | 2,758,176 |
| Total | 17,130,453 | 7,506,958 | 9,623,495 |