

23rd October, 2019

Deputy Gerry Adams Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

RE PQ ref 40203/19: To ask the Minister for Health if only palliative patients in County Louth have been allocated home support hours since June 2019.

Dear Deputy Adams,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question and Representation, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

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.

As part of cost management initiatives, at this time our highest priority is the delivery of home support services to those receiving palliative care. This is applicable to new clients applying for home support services.

At the end of September MLM CHO were continuing to deliver home support services to 1646 clients in Louth with a total of 33,740 hours. These hours have since increased and will be available following the next Key Performance Indicators return in October. The expenditure on Older Persons Louth/Meath Home Support services in September YTD 2019 was €18,814,761.

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,

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Pat Bennett Chief Officer Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation