



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
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Health Service Executive
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow
- Community Healthcare
Oak House, Lime Tree Avenue
Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare
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24th October 2019

Deputy Jack Chambers
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2

PQ 41305/19

To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting times for homecare package applications in west County Dublin; the number of open homecare package applications being considered in the area; the number of individual homecare packages being provided in the area; and if he will make a statement on the matter

-Jack Chambers

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.

From 1st January 2018, with the approval of the Department of Health, the funding for both the former Home Help Service and the Home Care Package Scheme has been combined into a single service now known as the Home Support Service. With effect from the same date, home support activity reflects the total hours and clients across the Home Support Service being the totality of the amalgamated former Home Help Service and Home Care Package Scheme.

I can advise of the following in respect of Dublin West as at 30th September 2019:

- Number of persons in receipt of Home Support Services – 1,394
- Number of Home Support Hours delivered Year to date - 296,035 hours
- Number who were waiting on funding for Home Support on 1st January 2019: 286
- Number of persons currently waiting on funding for Home Support at 30th September 2019: 185

Whilst our home support budget is significant it is finite and we are obliged to operate within our allocated resources. Due to the overwhelming demands for Home Support that continues to rise, a waiting list remains in effect. We are dependent on hours to return to our home care package system through recycling which we commenced in February 2019.

In addition to attempting to facilitate as many discharges from the acute services particularly over the coming winter months, we will continue to work with our colleagues in the community in identifying those persons who are most vulnerable and at risk.

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



Carol Cuffe

Head of Social Care

Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare