



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett,
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23rd October, 2019

Mr. Robert Troy T.D.,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 41372/19

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to address the long waiting lists for homehelp hours for counties Longford and Westmeath - Robert Troy.

Dear Deputy Troy,

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.

It is with regret that Older Person Services has had to create a waiting list for applicants for this very valuable service.

Home Support Services is a non-statutory scheme, the aim of which is to support an Older Person living at home. The quantity of services is limited to available budget.

At the end of July in Longford/Westmeath 204 clients were on a waiting list for home support hours. The waiting list has grown considerably over the last year as the demand for home support continues to grow.

A budget of €9.9m was allocated to Longford/Westmeath home support services for 2019. To date we have incurred an overspend of €0.8m. At the end of July Longford/Westmeath were providing 227,546 home support hours to 1358 clients.

Despite this significant level of service provision, the demand for home support continues to grow. Please be assured we will continue to monitor the waiting lists across all counties.

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