



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

30th October 2019

Deputy Niamh Smyth, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

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 42476/19

To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of homecare support services outsourced to private companies in 2018 and to date in 2019, by CHO in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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

Home Support services for older people, funded by the HSE, are provided either by directly employed staff or by voluntary and private providers who have formal tender arrangements with the HSE to deliver the services. Preliminary data currently available shows that of the 11,572,809 home support hours delivered since January 1st 2019, 6,452,241 of those were delivered through external providers i.e. not for profit/voluntary providers and for profit / private providers. (See Appendix 1 below for a percentage breakdown by CHO)

The HSE is currently implementing a single approach across the system in order to streamline services, and their delivery, to make the Home Support Service easier to understand and to reduce the complexity of the application process for clients. The National Guidelines & Procedures for Standardised Implementation of the Home Support Service 2018 provides guidance and procedures to each of the CHOs on operating the service. These guidelines are available for download at the following link: -

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/olderpeople/service-arrangement-documents.html>

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

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director – Operations
Services for Older People

Appendix 1 – Home Support Activity: 2018 & 2019 YTD (Preliminary Data)

CHO	2019		
	Home Support Hours -		
		Direct	Indirect
	Total Aug YTD	% Split of Total	% Split of Total
CHO 1	1,121,783	73%	27%
CHO 2	1,217,562	48%	52%
CHO 3	1,022,023	40%	60%
CHO 4	1,772,180	82%	18%
CHO 5	1,336,475	74%	26%
CHO 6	903,680	0%	100%
CHO 7	1,297,251	25%	75%
CHO 8	1,129,188	49%	51%
CHO 9	1,772,668	0%	100%
National Total	11,572,809	44%	56%

CHO	2018		
	Home Support Hours -		
		Direct	Indirect
	Total Dec YTD	% Split of Total	% Split of Total
CHO 1	1,694,036	68%	32%
CHO 2	1,787,709	49%	51%
CHO 3	1,456,803	45%	55%
CHO 4	2,707,162	85%	15%
CHO 5	1,927,217	76%	24%
CHO 6	1,301,981	0%	100%
CHO 7	1,880,560	15%	85%
CHO 8	1,616,808	49%	51%
CHO 9	2,758,176	0%	100%
National Total	17,130,453	44%	56%