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Ms Niamh Smyth T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

22nd October 2019

Re: PQ ref 42725/19 - SFOPPQ19156 - Home Support Wait List Cavan Monaghan

To ask the Minister for Health the number of older persons waiting for home support hours in counties Cavan and Monaghan - Niamh Smyth

Dear Deputy Smyth,

I refer to your recent correspondence received in my office regarding the number of older persons waiting for home support hours in counties Cavan and Monaghan. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I can advise that;

The total number of people receiving home support in Cavan and Monaghan is 1138. The total number of people waiting on new service is 160.

The total number of people in the community waiting on additional hours is 160.

While the resources for the provision of home support are substantial, they are finite. The aim is to be as responsive as possible to all applications; however, given the changing demographics and limitation of the resource, delays can occur. In this context, those clients who are assessed and who are not being provided immediately with a service, are prioritised based on the clinical assessment and are placed on a waiting list for a resource as it becomes available.

The number of people waiting for funding for home support services reflects a point in time. Those people who are on the waiting list are reviewed, as funding becomes available, to ensure that individual cases continue to be dealt with on a priority basis within the available resources and as determined by the local front line staff who know and understand the clients' needs, and who undertake regular reviews of those care needs to ensure that the services being provided remain appropriate.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Collum,

Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta, Rannán Cúraim Shóisialaigh, CHO 1.

General Manager, Services for Older Persons. Social Care Division CHO 1