



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Social Care Department
Head of Service - Older People
Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784140

16th July 2020

Mr. Johnny Mythen T.D.
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 13892/20

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to deal with the waiting lists for home support hours in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

Home Support Services are an important component of the provision of service to older people with assessed needs and to support them in their choice of living in their own home and community. The HSE, working within its available resources, has sought to maintain and when possible to expand the range and volume of services available to support people to remain in their own homes, to prevent early admission to long term residential care and to support people to return to their homes following an acute hospital admission.

The Wexford Home Support Service currently provides 55,668 hours per month to 1,626 clients in the Wexford area.

Despite the significant level of service provision, as with other areas, the demand for Home Support continues to grow and waiting lists have become a feature. People who have been assessed and approved for services are included on the Home Support waiting list in accordance with National Guidelines. A client's place on the waiting list is determined by their care needs and the date of application for the service. Clients on the waiting list are reviewed regularly so that their priority ranking on the waiting list reflects their care needs. Priority is given to hospital discharges and clients with the highest priority score on the waiting list.

In the Wexford area it is planned to commence a waiting list review in Quarter 3/Quarter 4 in 2020.

In addition, the level of activity in relation to home support in Wexford and across the South East is monitored on an on-going basis by South East Community Healthcare Head of Service for Older People to ensure that those with the greatest needs are supported in line with available funding.

I trust this is of assistance. Should you have further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Murphy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Barbara Murphy
General Manager, Services for Older People
South East Community Healthcare