



Oifig an Cheannasaí Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse - Oibríochtaí

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**6 August 2020**

**Deputy Louise O'Reilly, TD**  
**Dáil Eireann,**  
**Leinster House,**  
**Kildare Street,**  
**Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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 18043/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of increasing home support by 10% - Louise O'Reilly.**

The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE and having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the services from those people with assessed needs.

The estimated cost of a 10% increase in home support provision – based on the 2020 target of 19.2m hours (incl. IHCPs, costed at 2020 overall funded rate would cost an approximate €48.6m.

The Department is 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Tuohy".

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**Sandra Tuohy**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**Services for Older People – Operations**