



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

15th May 2020

**Deputy Mary Butler,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

PQ 5336/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours being provided in each LHO area as of 17 April 2020 or the latest date available; the way in which it compares to target in each LHO for the same time period; the number of persons on the waiting list for home support hours in each LHO area; and the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively in tabular form.

PQ 5337/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours being provided in each LHO area as of 17 April 2020 or the latest date available; the way in which it compares to target in each LHO for the same time period; the number of persons on the waiting list for home support hours in each LHO area; and the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and more than 12 months

- Mary Butler

Dear Deputy Butler,

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

The spread of COVID-19 is posing significant challenges for many areas of our Older People Services, including Home Support Services. In light of these unprecedented challenges together with the Government's guidance on social distancing and their recent initiative on 'Cocooning' for those aged over 70, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Home Support Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

The HSE has 9 Area Crisis Management Teams (ACMTs) in place across the country with responsibility of managing the COVID related issues and including Home Support Services. The HSE has been working with providers and community staff to identify where service is most required, and where for the benefit of clients, their carers, families and staff; a prioritisation of service has been made available so as to, where possible, comply with the requirements of physical distancing so as to prevent the spread of the virus.

As a result of a review of client prioritisation, a number of clients with lower priority needs may have their home support service temporarily ceased or reduced with the support of family members and/or alternative forms of volunteer-provided local supports. In these cases, each client has/will be contacted to advise of the assessment and decision, alternative support available and assistance given to ensure that essential requirements continue to be provided. Clients will be kept under review should individual circumstances change.



National Director, Community Operations
Dr. Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8, DO8 W2A8
Tel: 01 6352596 Email: communityoperations@hse.ie

Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta, Oibríochtaí Pobail
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Atha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8
T 01 6352596 R: communityoperations@hse.ie

In addition, the Local Authorities have taken a lead role in working with community and voluntary agencies in relation to supporting people to remain at home by providing & co-ordinating a range of supports, such as Meals on Wheels, collection and delivery of food, essential household items, fuel, medication etc.

As a result of the national effort across all Community Healthcare Organisations throughout the country, some aspects of normal monthly reporting have been delayed. Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to the end of February 2020. As of this date, 2,782,235 home support hours were delivered nationally to 51,342 people, with 7,827 people waiting for home support nationally.

As this is an evolving and unprecedented situation, the HSE will keep matters in review and will advise clients and/or family members accordingly. Furthermore, the HSE acknowledges the valuable role of carers and families, home support workers and providers across the services in supporting older people and their care groups throughout this difficult period.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Walsh'.

David Walsh,
National Director,
Community Operations

Appendix 1 – Preliminary Activity Data – February 2020

CHO	LHO	Target/EA YTD	Hours Activity YTD	Target/EA YTD	Clients YTD	Waiting List
National Total		2,963,860	2,782,235	52,735	51,342	7,827
CHO 1	Total	283,489	258,616	4,034	4,016	481
	Cavan Monaghan	69,010	63,649	1,165	1,127	217
	Donegal	127,950	121,960	1,581	1,538	264
	Sligo Leitrim	86,529	73,007	1,288	1,351	0
CHO 2	Total	329,314	311,925	6,122	6,051	501
	Galway	160,416	165,653	3,134	3,162	174
	Mayo	107,833	94,537	1,936	1,933	255
	Roscommon	61,065	51,735	1,052	956	72
CHO 3	Total	247,360	234,650	4,500	4,317	919
	Clare	74,208	74,190	1,156	1,173	535
	Limerick	98,944	87,965	1,898	1,763	276
	North Tipperary East Lir	74,208	72,495	1,446	1,381	108
CHO 4	Total	431,960	426,791	9,097	8,796	727
	Kerry	117,381	104,151	2,519	2,490	65
	North Cork	68,863	66,998	1,463	1,404	47
	North Lee	88,912	90,512	2,084	2,027	227
	South Lee	101,401	113,032	2,077	1,979	181
	West Cork	55,403	52,098	954	896	207
CHO 5	Total	326,109	307,670	5,974	5,607	1333
	Carlow Kilkenny	83,753	79,463	1,473	1,470	78
	South Tipperary	65,975	60,666	1,319	1,234	0
	Waterford	63,656	59,159	1,424	1,265	311
	Wexford	112,725	108,382	1,758	1,638	944
CHO 6	Total	229,061	212,913	4,364	4,079	0
	Dublin South East	61,236	53,620	1,409	1,312	0
	Dun Laoghaire	79,786	83,129	1,706	1,550	0
	Wicklow	88,039	76,164	1,249	1,217	0
CHO 7	Total	346,322	326,944	6,351	6,688	1,140
	Dublin South City	65,801	63,819	1,459	1,592	296
	Dublin South West	86,580	97,603	1,633	1,751	314
	Dublin West	69,265	72,011	1,404	1,450	231
	Kildare West Wicklow	124,676	93,511	1,855	1,895	299
CHO 8	Total	286,964	283,102	5,528	5,058	942
	Laois Offaly	70,072	70,060	1,170	1,001	119
	Longford Westmeath	73,410	73,731	1,353	1,224	97
	Louth	66,736	64,430	1,684	1,625	191
	Meath	76,746	74,881	1,321	1,208	535
CHO 9	Total	483,281	419,624	6,765	6,730	1,784
	Dublin North	213,035	166,410	2,553	2,602	688
	Dublin North Central	169,569	136,521	2,248	2,193	101
	Dublin North West	100,677	116,693	1,964	1,935	995