



Oifig an Cheannasaí Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse - Oibríochtaí

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9 November 2020

**Deputy John Lahart, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy Lahart,

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 34298/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours being provided in each LHO area as of 31 October 2020 or the latest date available; the way in which the number 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.

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.

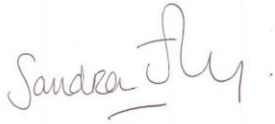
Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to the end of September 2020. As of this date, 12,849,770 home support hours were delivered nationally to 52,112 people. Also, as of this date, there were 2,964 people waiting for funding for new or additional home support. Please see table 1 below for a breakdown of this by LHO. Data in the requested format (and the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and more than 12 months respectively) is not currently collated nationally. This may be available locally; however it would take considerable resources to collect same.

The number of people waiting for funding for home support services, reflect a point in time. Those people who are on the waiting list have been assessed and are reviewed, as funding becomes available, to ensure that individual cases continue to be dealt with on a priority basis within the available resources, having regard to the client's assessed needs and current Public Health advice.

As the country moves through the parameters of the new "Roadmap for Living with Covid", the HSE continues to work closely with providers and community staff to identify where service is most required. This is to ensure, insofar as possible, that Home Support Services can continue where needed most. The requirements of physical distancing must be encouraged, supported and maintained so as to keep our staff and service users safe and prevent any further spread of the virus.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Tuohy".

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Services for Older People – Operations

Table 1 – Hours Delivered vs Target, & Waiting List – September 2020 YTD (preliminary data)

		Home Support Activity - September 2020				
CHO	LHO	Target/EA Full Year	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD	% Var YTD V Tgt/EA YTD	Waiting List
National Total		18,670,000	13,990,105	12,849,770	-8%	2,964
CHO 1	Total	1,791,320	1,337,367	1,214,479	-9%	59
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	452,567	338,440	313,389	-7%	0
CHO 1	Donegal	798,648	595,921	568,427	-5%	59
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	540,105	403,006	332,663	-17%	0
CHO 2	Total	2,053,320	1,532,414	1,476,705	-4%	290
CHO 2	Galway	1,000,215	746,469	770,898	3%	81
CHO 2	Mayo	672,355	501,786	451,607	-10%	192
CHO 2	Roscommon	380,750	284,159	254,200	-11%	17
CHO 3	Total	1,546,320	1,153,203	1,052,054	-9%	314
CHO 3	Clare	463,896	345,961	353,741	2%	278
CHO 3	Limerick	618,528	461,281	378,949	-18%	36
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	463,896	345,961	319,365	-8%	0
CHO 4	Total	2,823,200	2,167,764	2,062,706	-5%	1
CHO 4	Kerry	767,011	589,066	504,611	-14%	1
CHO 4	North Cork	450,242	345,586	320,506	-7%	0
CHO 4	North Lee	581,327	446,200	434,976	-3%	0
CHO 4	South Lee	662,592	508,873	549,662	8%	0
CHO 4	West Cork	362,028	278,039	252,951	-9%	0
CHO 5	Total	2,033,460	1,517,576	1,355,436	-11%	856
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	522,245	389,746	343,979	-12%	0
CHO 5	South Tipperary	411,376	307,022	254,718	-17%	0
CHO 5	Waterford	396,926	296,229	262,951	-11%	198
CHO 5	Wexford	702,913	524,579	493,789	-6%	658
CHO 6	Total	1,436,780	1,071,088	1,015,111	-5%	0
CHO 6	Dublin South East	384,102	286,340	262,975	-8%	0
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	500,455	373,078	401,115	8%	0
CHO 6	Wicklow	552,223	411,670	351,021	-15%	0
CHO 7	Total	2,173,500	1,620,259	1,465,505	-10%	1,169
CHO 7	Dublin South City	412,963	307,848	295,760	-4%	344
CHO 7	Dublin South West	543,375	405,064	399,794	-1%	314
CHO 7	Dublin West	434,701	324,052	319,935	-1%	203
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	782,461	583,295	450,015	-23%	308
CHO 8	Total	1,791,320	1,336,448	1,234,075	-8%	248
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	437,413	326,340	286,742	-12%	50
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	458,246	341,884	307,809	-10%	22
CHO 8	Louth	416,588	310,803	275,842	-11%	0
CHO 8	Meath	479,073	357,421	363,682	2%	176
CHO 9	Total	3,020,780	2,253,986	1,973,699	-12%	27
CHO 9	Dublin North	1,331,590	993,579	814,046	-18%	0
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	1,059,907	790,861	609,568	-23%	0
CHO 9	Dublin North West	629,283	469,546	550,085	17%	27