



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Príomhoifigeach ECSP Ceantar 8  
Oifig an Cheantair  
Bóthar an Ardáin  
An Tulach Mhór  
Co Uíbh Fhailí

t: 057 93 59787  
✉: [CHO8@hse.ie](mailto:CHO8@hse.ie)

Chief Officer CHO Area 8  
HSE Area Office,  
Arden Road  
Tullamore  
Co. Offaly

t: 057 93 59787  
✉: [CHO8@hse.ie](mailto:CHO8@hse.ie)

---

**PRÍOMHOIFIGEACH ECSP CEANTAR 8**  
**COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION 8**

---

3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020

Charles Flanagan, T.D.,  
Dail Eireann,  
Kildare St.,  
Dublin 2

**Re/ PQ 28700/20** *To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that CHO 8 is experiencing a long waiting time for approval and delivery of home help services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Charles Flanagan*

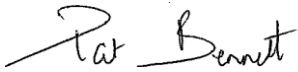
Dear Deputy Flanagan,

I refer to your representation *“To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that CHO 8 is experiencing a long waiting time for approval and delivery of home help services; and if he will make a statement on the matter, and wish to respond as follows*

Home Support applications are considered in each of the six counties of CHO 8 on a weekly basis by assessment teams. Home Support hours are approved/ refused or referred to other care pathways. Once a decision is made to approve hours, then these services are set up in the home directly by HSE Staff or by agencies working on behalf of the HSE, services are in place within days of the home support team making it's decision. Any delays incurred are generally due to carer availability as we do have some black spot areas where we cannot access carers. Funding is not currently an issue for CHO 8 and we will receive an additional funding allocation as part of the 2020/2021 Winter Plan. We have noted that the governments' Covid pandemic payment has impacted on availability of carer's within some agencies working on behalf of the HSE.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Pat Bennett**  
Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation