



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse
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

2 March 2021

**Deputy Pauline Tully, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy Tully,

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 8573/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for homecare support in each county; the total number of hours allocated in each of the past 12 months in each county; the average number of hours granted to each successful applicant; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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 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.

Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to end of January 2021. As of this date, 1,571,602 home support hours were delivered nationally to 52,508 people. Also, as of this date, there were 2,144 people waiting for funding for new or additional home support. Data relating to "*the average number of hours granted to each successful applicant*" is not currently collated nationally. While this may be available locally, it would take considerable resources to source this information at a national level. Please see table 1 below for a breakdown of hours delivered throughout 2020 per LHO/CHO.

There has been a significant reduction in the number of people assessed and waiting on funding for home support throughout 2020 and into 2021 – this has been as a result of a number of factors including validation of waiting lists and availability of funding to address those waiting. Further funding to provide an additional 5m hours in 2021, as part of the Winter Plan 2020/2021, will enable the HSE to keep the number of clients assessed and waiting on funding to a minimum in addition to the provision of packages of care to support reablement and those with complex care needs in order to avoid long-term care. This will amount to a service provision of approximately 24m hours in 2021.

As the country moves into 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 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.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Services for Older People – Operations

Table 1 – Home Support Service Provision – January to December 2020

CHO	LHO	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total Hours 2020
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	30,227	33,422	35,347	34,464	34,918	34,666	35,584	37,531	37,229	39,167	37,907	39,253	429,716
	Donegal	61,848	54,391	64,125	61,971	66,763	62,758	64,529	66,044	69,477	71,076	68,131	73,626	784,739
	Sligo/ Leitrim	37,465	35,542	36,108	35,302	36,026	36,096	39,143	38,897	38,083	40,099	40,652	54,871	468,285
	CHO Total	129,540	123,355	135,580	131,737	137,707	133,520	139,257	142,473	144,789	150,342	146,690	167,750	1,682,740
CHO 2	Galway	85,949	79,704	85,437	84,439	83,880	82,681	91,374	87,285	90,150	92,353	96,284	96,240	1,055,775
	Mayo	46,391	48,146	49,880	50,255	49,738	48,994	53,544	52,148	52,510	53,211	61,486	56,552	622,856
	Roscommon	26,735	25,000	26,954	26,524	28,770	27,925	30,947	30,416	30,930	31,889	38,554	35,801	360,443
	CHO Total	159,075	152,850	162,270	161,218	162,388	159,600	175,865	169,849	173,590	177,452	196,324	188,593	2,039,074
CHO 3	Clare	38,310	35,880	38,407	38,227	38,805	37,863	44,173	39,622	42,454	42,795	42,295	42,610	481,441
	Limerick	45,153	42,812	41,434	40,345	40,481	39,678	44,245	42,150	42,650	44,307	43,286	43,639	510,181
	North Tipp/ East Limerick	37,391	35,105	35,376	34,521	35,556	32,372	37,443	35,868	35,733	36,031	36,706	29,252	421,354
	CHO Total	120,853	113,797	115,217	113,093	114,842	109,914	125,860	117,640	120,838	123,134	122,287	115,500	1,412,975
CHO 4	Kerry	52,046	52,105	52,190	53,192	51,704	49,790	48,943	47,889	96,752	50,019	52,511	66,387	673,527
	North Cork	33,725	33,273	33,576	33,967	33,862	56,501	31,270	31,601	32,730	32,246	33,110	33,845	419,706
	North Lee	45,481	45,031	46,143	46,176	45,852	75,134	43,026	43,681	44,452	44,701	45,702	45,878	571,257
	South Lee	57,151	55,880	56,409	57,277	56,767	54,092	55,473	55,231	101,382	59,512	58,314	58,960	726,449
	West Cork	26,156	25,942	26,527	26,394	25,920	25,805	24,017	23,837	48,353	25,336	26,083	26,259	330,629
	CHO Total	214,559	212,232	214,844	217,007	214,105	261,323	202,729	202,238	323,668	211,813	215,720	231,330	2,721,569
CHO 5	Carlow/ Kilkenny	39,393	40,070	38,165	36,349	35,984	37,237	36,771	38,817	41,193	40,600	40,095	39,065	463,739
	South Tipperary	31,759	28,906	27,838	25,684	27,636	27,887	28,377	27,801	28,831	30,928	39,972	31,469	357,086
	Waterford	30,183	28,976	29,918	27,345	28,380	28,442	29,257	30,276	30,173	32,048	30,980	30,412	356,390
	Wexford	54,242	54,140	54,442	53,906	55,668	54,722	55,929	55,038	55,702	54,068	58,610	55,601	662,068
	CHO Total	155,578	152,092	150,363	143,284	147,668	148,288	150,334	151,932	155,899	157,644	169,657	156,546	1,839,284
CHO 6	Dublin South East	26,102	27,518	27,704	32,544	32,680	31,626	32,993	26,740	25,069	33,686	40,309	40,910	377,879
	Dun Laoghaire	42,579	40,550	43,233	42,038	43,383	44,312	47,997	48,566	48,457	54,295	53,342	55,469	564,222
	Wicklow	39,858	36,307	38,237	37,428	39,189	39,476	40,551	40,213	39,764	40,597	39,058	41,046	471,722
	CHO Total	108,539	104,375	109,174	112,010	115,251	115,414	121,541	115,519	113,289	128,578	132,709	137,425	1,413,823
CHO 7	Dublin South City	31,342	32,477	32,129	30,206	28,639	30,995	45,121	31,310	33,542	35,088	46,232	42,834	419,914
	Dublin South West	46,923	50,680	44,098	39,643	37,642	41,305	50,252	44,283	44,968	45,848	50,790	49,769	546,201
	Dublin West	37,189	34,821	34,127	34,086	32,131	31,604	43,004	35,417	37,557	38,193	42,026	43,105	443,259
	Kildare/ West Wicklow	45,556	47,955	45,763	45,092	56,572	44,240	62,678	50,115	52,044	57,327	45,002	51,600	603,945
	CHO Total	161,010	165,934	156,117	149,026	154,984	148,144	201,055	161,124	168,110	176,455	184,051	187,309	2,013,320
CHO 8	Laois/ Offaly	36,866	33,195	34,905	32,777	29,099	27,958	29,430	30,374	32,139	33,308	34,272	37,714	392,036
	Longford/ Westmeath	40,172	33,559	30,626	29,260	29,429	40,950	33,465	33,848	36,500	41,735	38,868	42,546	430,957
	Louth	33,715	30,715	29,399	28,960	31,131	27,680	29,265	32,807	32,171	32,169	31,821	30,131	369,963
	Meath	38,781	36,100	39,407	38,924	41,679	37,918	42,574	43,770	44,529	45,275	45,750	47,506	502,213
	CHO Total	149,534	133,568	134,336	129,921	131,338	134,506	134,734	140,799	145,339	152,486	150,711	157,897	1,695,169
CHO 9	Dublin North	85,176	81,234	86,816	84,886	91,407	90,487	98,133	97,856	98,051	104,079	101,393	104,231	1,123,749
	Dublin North Central	71,639	64,882	68,585	60,255	67,341	64,450	72,351	69,245	70,819	83,107	74,823	78,489	845,987
	Dublin North West	59,662	57,031	55,724	58,883	62,812	61,963	61,588	66,656	65,766	73,737	71,402	71,966	767,190
	CHO Total	216,477	203,147	211,125	204,024	221,560	216,900	232,072	233,758	234,636	260,923	247,618	254,686	2,736,926
	Total	1,415,165	1,361,349	1,389,025	1,361,320	1,399,844	1,427,609	1,483,447	1,435,332	1,580,159	1,538,827	1,565,768	1,597,036	17,554,880