



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse

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Services for Older People

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15 March 2021

**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 12428/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours currently being provided in each LHO area as of 1 March 2021 or the latest date available; the way it compares to target in each LHO for the same time period; the number of persons currently 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 12 months plus in tabular form.

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 number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and 12 months plus*" 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 January 2021 YTD 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

Home Support Service Provision 2021

Activity January 2021 YTD

Date: 10th March 2021

		Home Support Service Provision - Hours				Clients	Waiting List
CHO	LHO	Full Year Target 2021	January 2021 Target YTD	January 2021 Activity YTD	% Variance	January 2021 Clients	January 2021 Waiting List
National Total		23,670,000	1,699,380	1,571,604	-8%	52,508	2,144
CHO1	Cavan Monaghan	592,671	38,197	39,023	2%	1,231	-
	Donegal	1,046,159	73,820	73,272	-1%	1,574	152
	Sligo Leitrim	707,490	49,922	40,284	-19%	1,317	-
	Total	2,346,320	161,939	152,579	-6%	4,122	152
CHO2	Galway	1,243,289	91,388	91,304	0%	3,271	3
	Mayo	835,751	61,432	53,533	-13%	2,000	83
	Roscommon	473,280	34,788	32,782	-6%	1,031	9
	Total	2,552,320	187,608	177,619	-5%	6,302	95
CHO3	Clare	575,556	42,486	40,960	-4%	1,315	216
	Limerick	767,408	56,648	46,154	-19%	1,731	43
	North Tipperary East Limerick	575,556	42,486	35,552	-16%	1,174	39
	Total	1,918,520	141,620	122,666	-13%	4,220	298
CHO4	Kerry	967,989	66,112	52,861	-20%	2,424	-
	North Cork	567,886	38,786	33,796	-13%	1,444	-
	North Lee	733,220	50,077	44,834	-10%	2,010	-
	South Lee	836,214	57,112	57,979	2%	1,923	-
	West Cork	456,891	31,205	26,377	-15%	881	-
	Total	3,562,200	243,292	215,847	-11%	8,682	-
CHO5	Carlow Kilkenny	692,512	48,781	45,306	-7%	1,448	-
	South Tipperary	545,522	38,427	32,433	-16%	1,193	-
	Waterford	526,343	37,076	31,889	-14%	1,329	-
	Wexford	932,083	65,656	54,701	-17%	1,656	-
	Total	2,696,460	189,940	164,329	-13%	5,626	-
CHO6	Dublin South East	531,667	36,447	42,416	16%	1,288	-
	Dun Laoghaire	692,729	47,489	58,714	24%	1,593	-
	Wicklow	764,384	52,401	42,034	-20%	1,191	-
	Total	1,988,780	136,337	143,164	5%	4,072	-
CHO7	Dublin South City	551,095	39,334	36,393	-7%	1,732	364
	Dublin South West	725,125	51,755	49,005	-5%	2,057	321
	Dublin West	580,100	41,404	41,241	0%	1,541	240
	Kildare West Wicklow	1,044,180	74,528	50,021	-33%	1,931	369
	Total	2,900,500	207,021	176,660	-15%	7,261	1,294
CHO8	Laois Offaly	591,008	41,176	37,986	-8%	1,152	33
	Longford Westmeath	619,152	43,137	42,704	-1%	1,282	-
	Louth	562,865	39,215	31,074	-21%	1,168	-
	Meath	647,295	45,098	47,446	5%	1,358	157
	Total	2,420,320	168,626	159,210	-6%	4,960	190
CHO9	Dublin North	1,447,878	115,932	107,889	-7%	2,957	15
	Dublin North Central	1,152,463	92,278	78,342	-15%	2,207	26
	Dublin North West	684,239	54,787	73,299	34%	2,099	74
	Total	3,284,580	262,997	259,530	-1%	7,263	115