



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta – Oibríochtaí

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Services for Older People

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20th October 2021

Michael Moynihan, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

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 48740/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours for older persons that were provided in each local health office area in 2019, 2020 and to date in 2021; and the projected out turn for 2021, 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 National Service Plan for 2021 provides for the following: -

- 23.67m home support hours to be delivered to 55,675 people by year end, inclusive of an additional 5m hours funded under the Winter Plan 2020/2021
- 230,000 hours to be delivered as part of the Home Support Pilot Scheme to commence in 2021 and
- 360,000 home support hours provided to 235 people under the Intensive Home Support Scheme

Home Support Services are an important component of the provision of service to older people with assessed needs and to support them in their choice of living in their own home and community. The HSE, working within its available resources, has sought to maintain and when possible to expand the range and volume of services available to support people to remain in their own homes, to prevent early admission to long term residential care and to support people to return to their homes following an acute hospital admission. The Home Support resource is used to its maximum effect as part of each individual recipient's care plan.

Preliminary activity data* currently available reflects the period to end of August 2021. As of this date, 13,218,095 home support hours were delivered nationally to 53,905 people. Also, as of this date, there were 478 people assessed and waiting for funding for new or additional home support. Please see appendix below which shows a breakdown of Home Support service provision since 2019.

Additional funding provided, as part of the Winter Plan 2020/2021, will support a significant increase of service provision of 5m hours by year end and 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

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

Appendix 1 – Breakdown of Home Support Hours 2019 – 2021 YTD

Home Support Services

Breakdown of Home Support & Homehelp Hours

			HOME SUPPORT PROVISION		
CHO	LHO	TARGET 2021	2021 Aug YTD	2020	2019
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	592,671	330,640	429,716	430,027
	Donegal	1,046,159	581,698	784,040	762,626
	Sligo/ Leitrim	707,490	373,871	468,285	479,254
	CHO Total	2,346,320	1,286,208	1,682,041	1,671,908
CHO 2	Galway	1,243,289	800,314	1,055,775	965,024
	Mayo	835,751	450,396	622,856	552,844
	Roscommon	473,280	280,756	360,443	329,533
	CHO Total	2,552,320	1,531,466	2,039,074	1,847,400
CHO 3	Clare	575,556	382,828	481,441	460,968
	Limerick	767,408	377,282	510,181	578,207
	North Tipp/ East Limerick	575,556	324,304	421,354	465,748
	CHO Total	1,918,520	1,084,414	1,412,975	1,504,922
CHO 4	Kerry	967,989	479,565	673,760	697,669
	North Cork	567,886	272,630	419,939	416,144
	North Lee	733,220	360,652	571,490	571,338
	South Lee	836,214	471,499	726,449	708,869
	West Cork	456,891	214,939	330,629	336,739
	CHO Total	3,562,200	1,799,284	2,722,268	2,730,758
CHO 5	Carlow/ Kilkenny	692,512	330,028	463,739	501,493
	South Tipperary	545,522	229,854	357,086	387,296
	Waterford	526,343	260,581	356,390	371,972
	Wexford	932,083	432,861	662,068	681,741
	CHO Total	2,696,460	1,253,324	1,839,284	1,942,502
CHO 6	Dublin South East	531,667	378,484	377,879	349,536
	Dun Laoghaire	692,729	511,705	564,222	517,268
	Wicklow	764,384	338,793	471,722	498,085
	CHO Total	1,988,780	1,228,983	1,413,823	1,364,889
CHO 7	Dublin South City	551,095	307,344	419,914	378,729
	Dublin South West	725,125	422,193	546,201	503,937
	Dublin West	580,100	341,819	443,259	407,303
	Kildare/ West Wicklow	1,044,180	450,672	603,945	734,646
	CHO Total	2,900,500	1,522,028	2,013,320	2,024,615
CHO 8	Laois/ Offaly	591,008	345,583	392,036	444,667
	Longford/ Westmeath	619,152	354,355	430,957	415,969
	Louth	562,865	265,934	369,963	399,367
	Meath	647,295	376,601	502,213	457,791
	CHO Total	2,420,320	1,342,473	1,695,169	1,717,794
CHO 9	Dublin North	1,447,878	863,252	1,123,749	959,302
	Dublin North Central	1,152,463	659,741	845,987	919,943
	Dublin North West	684,239	646,922	767,190	801,430
	CHO Total	3,284,580	2,169,914	2,736,926	2,680,675
Total		23,670,000	13,218,095	17,554,880	17,485,463