



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Head of Older Persons Services  
South East Community Healthcare  
HSE Offices, Lacken  
Dublin Road  
Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784140

26<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Ms. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor T.D.  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin

**PQ 50606/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of Older Persons on the waiting list for home care support in each local health office area in CHO5; the corresponding figures for each area at the end of June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Murnane O'Connor,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.*

The Home Support Service is funded 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 persons needs by the HSE having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the service for those people with assessed needs.

Despite the significant level of service provision the demand for Home Support continues to grow as the population aged over 65 years' increases.

The table below highlights the Waiting List figures for Home Support provision in each area for October 2021 and corresponding figures for June 2020.


Waiting List Figures in each Local Health Office area		
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	June 2020	October 2021
Wexford	909	917
Waterford	294	393
Carlow/Kilkenny	85	153
South Tipperary	101	161

There is ongoing issues in sourcing staff for both HSE and Private Providers and particularly at this time. In addition given the ageing demographic profile of this workforce and also with greater numbers of older people in our population, there is a need for home support staff on an ongoing basis. The HSE South East Community Healthcare is currently running a further recruitment campaign across the South East.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barbara Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

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**Barbara Murphy**  
**Head of Older Persons Services**  
**South East Community Healthcare**