

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta - Oibríochtaí

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Deputy David Cullinane, TD Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 47229/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home help hours provided annually by the HSE in each of the years 2017 to 2020; the number of home help hours provided in these years by private companies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

From 1 January 2018, home help hours and homecare packages were amalgamated into a single funded service: Home Support. 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.

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.

The type of support that is provided includes personal care and, where appropriate, essential household duties relating to the client's needs. The home support service which people receive is based on an individual client's care needs, which are assessed by clinical staff. The home support provided and associated care plan will vary dependent on the level of dependency, client's individual ability to undertake activities of daily living and other support structures in place such as attendance at day care.

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.

Preliminary activity data* currently available reflects the period to end of August 2021. As of this date, 13,218,094 home support hours were delivered nationally to 53,905 people. Please see appendix below which shows a breakdown of activity since 2017 for both direct and indirect service provision.

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

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Assistant National Director

Services for Older People - Operations

Appendix 1 – Home Support/HH Hours 2017 to 2021 YTD

Home Support Services Breakdown of Home Support & Homehelp Hours

			HOME SUPPORT PROVISION												Homehelp Hours (HH)			Homecare Packages (HCP)		
СНО	LHO	TARGET 2021	2021 Aug YTD			2020			2019			2018			2017					
СНО	LHO		Total	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect
	National Total				13,218,095			17,554,880			17,485,463			17,130,453			10,790,819			19,807
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	592,671	330,640	146,794	183,846	429,716	200,371	229,345	430,027	218,397	211,630	469,617	225,206	244,411	398,783	229,465	169,318	608	327	281
	Donegal	1,046,159	581,698	476,876	104,822	784,040	660,244	123,796	762,626	661,152	101,474	736,345	614,459	121,886	669,364	585,415	83,949	469	279	190
	Sligo/Leitrim	707,490	373,871	246,469	127,401	468,285	334,697	133,588	479,254	343,451	135,804	488,074	319,460	168,614	415,517	330,954	84,563	301	209	92
	CHO Total	2,346,320	1,286,208	870,139	416,069	1,682,041	1,195,312	486,729	1,671,908	1,223,000	448,908	1,694,036	1,159,125	534,911	1,483,664	1,145,834	337,830	1,378	815	563
CHO 2	Galway	1,243,289	800,314	213,396	586,918	1,055,775	322,854	732,921	965,024	276,990	688,034	961,668	264,138	697,530	690,054	211,362	478,692	1,039	305	734
	Mayo	835,751	450,396	256,110	194,286	622,856	400,536	222,321	552,844	389,497	163,347	511,271	387,880	123,391	475,801	439,082	36,719	600	510	90
	Roscommon	473,280	280,756	146,069	134,687	360,443	206,621	153,822	329,533	218,887	110,646	314,770	220,425	94,345	235,303	180,035	55,269	273	241	32
	CHO Total	2,552,320	1,531,466	615,575	915,891	2,039,074	930,010	1,109,064	1,847,400	885,374	962,027	1,787,709	872,444	915,265	1,401,158	830,478	570,680	1,912	1,056	856
CHO 3	Clare	575,556	382,828	16,995	365,833	481,441	9,041	472,400	460,968	-	460,968	439,909	-	439,909	193,661	78	193,583	380	-	380
	Limerick	767,408	377,282	187,030	190,252	510,181	274,887	235,294	578,207	298,525	279,682	562,219	357,169	205,050	391,645	326,457	65,188	465	-	465
	North Tipp/ East Limerical	575,556	324,304	181,768	142,536	421,354	263,831	157,523	465,748	302,143	163,605	454,675	293,715	160,960	340,471	304,547	35,924	304	-	304
	CHO Total	1,918,520	1,084,414	385,793	698,621	1,412,975	547,758	865,217	1,504,922	600,668	904,254	1,456,803	650,884	805,919	925,776	631,081	294,695	1,149	-	1,149
CHO 4	Kerry	967,989	479,565	409,713	69,851	673,760	589,358	84,402	697,669	604,850	92,819	680,086	594,509	85,578	521,712	467,329	54,383	591	520	71
	North Cork	567,886	272,630	208,069	64,561	419,939	343,246	76,693	416,144	342,023	74,121	430,092	361,474	68,618	320,583	320,583	-	139	59	80
	North Lee	733,220	360,652	253,796	106,856	571,490	436,340	135,150	571,338	441,402	129,936	548,201	444,333	103,868	337,342	337,342	-	314	181	133
	South Lee	836,214	471,499	333,079	138,420	726,449	553,236	173,213	708,869	548,154	160,715	701,401	554,832	146,569	457,166	457,166	-	412	257	155
	West Cork	456,891	214,939	188,849	26,091	330,629	303,981	26,648	336,739	318,658	18,082	347,382	334,141	13,241	305,298	305,298	-	101	79	22
	CHO Total	3,562,200	1,799,284	1,393,506	405,778	2,722,268	2,226,162	496,106	2,730,758	2,255,087	475,671	2,707,162	2,289,289	417,873	1,942,100	1,887,717	54,383	1,557	1,096	461
CHO 5	Carlow/ Kilkenny	692,512	330,028	252,636	77,392	463,739	352,044	111,695	501,493	392,841	108,652	500,995	405,207	95,788	274,592	248,154	26,439	220	166	54
	South Tipperary	545,522	229,854	202,935	26,919	357,086	318,316	38,770	387,296	341,671	45,625	393,837	352,667	41,170	254,932	249,239	5,692	367	288	79
	Waterford	526,343	260,581	170,301	90,280	356,390	226,437	129,953	371,972	237,769	134,203	381,853	238,784	143,070	228,766	162,038	66,728	274	151	123
	Wexford	932,083	432,861	249,026	183,835	662,068	420,227	241,841	681,741	454,799	226,942	650,532	460,020	190,512	391,525	330,075	61,450	381	232	149
	CHO Total	2,696,460	1,253,324	874,899	378,425	1,839,284	1,317,025	522,259	1,942,502	1,427,080	515,421	1,927,217	1,456,677	470,539	1,149,816	989,507	160,309	1,242	837	405
CHO 6	Dublin South East	531,667	378,484	8,000	370,484	377,879	-	377,879	349,536	-	349,536	355,038	-	355,038	76,154	72	76,082	841	-	841
	Dun Laoghaire	692,729	511,705	8,000	503,705	564,222	-	564,222	517,268	-	517,268	459,712	-	459,712	94,020	8,185	85,835	841	-	841
	Wicklow	764,384	338,793	8,000	330,793	471,722	-	471,722	498,085	-	498,085	487,232	-	487,232	175,979	-	175,979	539	-	539
	CHO Total	1,988,780	1,228,983	24,000	1,204,983	1,413,823		1,413,823	1,364,889		1,364,889	1,301,981		1,301,981	346,153	8,257	337,896	2,221	-	2,221
CHO 7	Dublin South City	551,095	307,344	3,217	304,127	419,914	-	419,914	378,729	-	378,729	397,457	-	397,457	105,686	-	105,686	606	-	606
	Dublin South West	725,125	422,193	-	422,193	546,201	-	546,201	503,937	-	503,937	483,586	-	483,586	103,063	-	103,063	1,015	-	1,015
	Dublin West	580,100	341,819	-	341,819	443,259	-	443,259	407,303	-	407,303	444,711	-	444,711	196,824	87,040	109,784	705	-	705
	Kildare/ West Wicklow	1,044,180	450,672	191,058	259,614	603,945	314,895	289,050	734,646	483,040	251,606	554,806	291,324	263,482	361,639	361,639	-	734	-	734
	CHO Total	2,900,500	1,522,028	194,275	1,327,753	2,013,320	314,895	1,698,424	2,024,615	483,040	1,541,575	1,880,560	291,324	1,589,236	767,213	448,679	318,534	3,060	-	3,060
CHO 8	Laois/ Offaly	591,008	345,583	106,747	238,836	392,036	166,739	225,297	444,667	209,215	235,452	417,136	228,776	188,360	324,370	235,287	89,083	656	64	592
	Longford/Westmeath	619,152	354,355	152,561	201,794	430,957	229,738	201,219	415,969	226,499	189,470	346,950	197,233	149,717	347,531	297,101	50,429	468	56	412
	Louth	562,865	265,934	69,402	196,532	369,963	116,271	253,693	399,367	120,817	278,550	421,537	114,221	307,315	248,767	122,129	126,638	1,061	600	461
	Meath	647,295	376,601	178,381	198,220	502,213	258,532	243,681	457,791	263,812	193,979	431,186	246,984	184,202	495,683	218,741	276,942	496	262	234
	CHO Total	2,420,320	1,342,473	507,091	835,382	1,695,169	771,279	923,890	1,717,794	820,344	897,450	1,616,808	787,214	829,594	1,416,351	873,258	543,092	2,681	982	1,699
CHO 9	Dublin North	1,447,878	863,252	-	863,252	1,123,749	-	1,123,749	959,302	-	959,302	1,086,803	-	1,086,803	544,651	53,171	491,480	1,853	-	1,853
	Dublin North Central	1,152,463	659,741	-	659,741	845,987	-	845,987	919,943	-	919,943	888,469	-	888,469	465,229	-	465,229	1,406	-	1,406
	Dublin North West	684,239	646,922	-	646,922	767,190	-	767,190	801,430	-	801,430	782,904	-	782,904	348,709	5,891	342,818	1,348	1,016	332
	CHO Total	3,284,580	2,169,914		2,169,914	2,736,926		2,736,926	2,680,675	-	2,680,675	2,758,176	-	2,758,176	1,358,589	59,062	1,299,527	4,607	1,016	3,591
	Total	23,670,000	13,218,095	4,865,278	8,352,816	17,554,880	7,302,442	10,252,438	17,485,463	7,694,593	9,790,870	17,130,453	7,506,958	9,623,495	10,790,819	6,873,875	3,916,945	19,807	5,802	14,005