



29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Deputy Réada Cronin,  
 Dáil Eireann,  
 Leinster House,  
 Kildare Street,  
 Dublin 2.

**PQ 19097/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of social workers who are attached to each of the State-run nursing homes; the ratio per patient for each; the number of visits undertaken per patient in each of the past five years in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

-Réada Cronin

Dear Deputy Cronin,

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

Please see the below table which gives the requested information on a CHO basis. Note that because of differences in practise, many CHOs do not attach social workers specifically to state-run residential units, and social worker services are provided through Primary Care or Mental Health Services, or through safeguarding services as necessary depending on the referral. Where figures are not available this has been denoted by 'N/A'

|       | # Social Workers attached to Nursing Homes | Ratio of patients to each | # Visits 2017 | # Visits 2018 | # Visits 2019 | # Visits 2020 | # Visits 2021 |
|-------|--|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| CHO1  | 1  | N/A                       | N/A           | N/A           | N/A           | N/A           | N/A           |
| CHO2  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO3  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO4  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO5  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO6  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO7  | 2  | N/A                       | 428           | 343           | 289           | 243           | 160*          |
| CHO8  | 0  | 0                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| CHO9  | 1.6  | 0.048                     | 32            | 82            | 66            | 128           | 194           |
| Total | 3.6  | N/A                       | 460           | 425           | 355           | 371           | 354           |

\* Note figures for CHO7 included Cherry Orchard Hospital and Belvilla & Meath Community Units. 2021 figures are not available for Cherry Orchard Hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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Yvonne O'Neill,  
Interim National Director,  
Community Operations