



04 January 2023

**Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Éireann,  
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 61774/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 279 of 17 November 2022, the number and details of private providers with whom the HSE has service arrangements that are not on the tender framework, in each of the years 2018 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; the total value of payments made to such providers by service type; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

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 provided by both directly employed Healthcare Support Assistants (HCSAs) and Approved Providers with formal tendered arrangements with the HSE.

With regards to your query in relation to "*the number of private providers with whom the HSE has service arrangements that are not on the tender framework, together with the total value of payments made to such providers by service type*", please note that this information is not collected nationally. While this information may be available locally, given the many variables associated with same, it would take considerable resources to collate this on a national level.

Each CHO area manages their Home Support service in line with local service demands and within available resources. The Home Support Standard Operating Procedures – Tender 2018, allows, in the event that no Approved Provider is available to undertake a client contract due to capacity issues, the HSE to reserve its right to put in place alternative arrangements in order to fulfil the clients' Home Support service requirements. More information on the operation of same can be found at the following link;  
<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/olderpeople/home-support-service-for-older-people-standard-operating-procedure-tender-2018.pdf>

Trusting the above assists with your query.

Yours sincerely,

**Kathleen Jordan**  
Head of Service  
Services for Older People  
Community Operations