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02 February 2022

**Deputy Paul Murphy TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Questions, which were submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 1925/22

To ask the Minister for Health the budget for each community health organisation for homecare packages

PQ 1926/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of homecare hours that were allocated to each CHO in 2021 and that have been allocated for 2022

PQ 1927/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of homecare hours that were outsourced to private care by CHO in 2021 and it is planned to outsource in 2022

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.

NSP 2022 provides for the following: -

- Rollover of the 2021 target levels of service into 2022, inclusive of the additional 5m hours funded in 2021 to 23.67m hours nationally
- 360,000 hours provided via Intensive Home Care Packages
- 230,000 hours associated with the roll-out of the pilot Statutory Home Support Scheme, which commenced in late 2021

Despite the significant level of service provision, the demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, has grown considerably over the past number of years. Similarly, the type of Home Support that is now required to meet the needs of the population is a more person-centred personal care model.

Preliminary activity data currently available reflects the period to end of December 2021. As of this date, 20,463,216 Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 55,043 people, of which 12.9m hours were delivered by private and voluntary providers. 21,164 new Home Support clients also benefitted from a Home Support service during 2021. Also, as of this date, there were 474 people waiting for funding for new or additional home support, while 5,322 people were approved for Home

Support but are awaiting a carer to be assigned. Please see Appendix 1 below for a breakdown of the data requested.

It should be noted that despite capacity challenges experienced nationwide within Home Support services, overall service delivery increased by 14% based on activity levels for the same period last year. In addition, the HSE is committed to, at a minimum, maintain and where possible, increase directly provided Home Support services throughout 2022 and into the future. The HSE continues to actively recruit for the position of Healthcare Support Assistants (HCSAs) with a number of campaigns being run in many local areas. These campaigns are ongoing and many have been accelerated in order to meet the increasing demand which is evident within Home Support services nationally.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra Tuohy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the first name.

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Community Operations
Services for Older People

Appendix 1 – Home Support Activity 2021 & Targets 2022

Home Support Activity Summary 2021 (incl. Targets 2022)

| CHO | LHO | HOME SUPPORT 2022 | | HOME SUPPORT ACTIVITY 2021 | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Target 2022 - Hours | Target 2022 - Clients | Outturn 2021 - Hours | Outturn 2021 - Clients | Waiting List - Funding | Waiting List - Carers |
| CHO 1 | Cavan Monaghan | 581,849 | 1,245 | 504,132 | 1,230 | - | 222 |
| CHO 1 | Donegal | 1,027,058 | 1,685 | 918,666 | 1,745 | 66 | 85 |
| CHO 1 | Sligo Leitrim | 694,573 | 1,380 | 584,997 | 1,363 | - | 58 |
| CHO 1 | Total | 2,303,480 | 4,310 | 2,007,795 | 4,338 | 66 | 365 |
| CHO 2 | Galway | 1,222,405 | 3,286 | 1,215,901 | 3,452 | - | 278 |
| CHO 2 | Mayo | 821,714 | 2,030 | 685,634 | 2,137 | - | 293 |
| CHO 2 | Roscommon | 465,331 | 1,104 | 430,133 | 1,117 | - | 127 |
| CHO 2 | Total | 2,509,450 | 6,420 | 2,331,668 | 6,706 | - | 698 |
| CHO 3 | Clare | 567,000 | 1,223 | 587,317 | 1,459 | 52 | 205 |
| CHO 3 | Limerick | 756,000 | 1,852 | 625,951 | 1,770 | - | 180 |
| CHO 3 | North Tipperary East Limerick | 567,000 | 1,530 | 501,347 | 1,362 | - | 138 |
| CHO 3 | Total | 1,890,000 | 4,605 | 1,714,615 | 4,591 | 52 | 523 |
| CHO 4 | Kerry | 956,332 | 2,595 | 717,094 | 2,511 | 1 | 208 |
| CHO 4 | North Cork | 561,047 | 1,510 | 432,852 | 1,547 | - | 105 |
| CHO 4 | North Lee | 724,390 | 2,150 | 572,520 | 2,045 | - | 120 |
| CHO 4 | South Lee | 826,143 | 2,041 | 763,630 | 2,052 | - | 249 |
| CHO 4 | West Cork | 451,388 | 984 | 341,055 | 915 | - | 114 |
| CHO 4 | Total | 3,519,300 | 9,280 | 2,827,151 | 9,070 | 1 | 796 |
| CHO 5 | Carlow Kilkenny | 677,835 | 1,575 | 502,607 | 1,581 | - | 135 |
| CHO 5 | South Tipperary | 533,960 | 1,305 | 330,677 | 1,384 | - | 198 |
| CHO 5 | Waterford | 515,187 | 1,520 | 430,096 | 1,480 | - | 317 |
| CHO 5 | Wexford | 912,328 | 1,880 | 645,040 | 1,777 | - | 871 |
| CHO 5 | Total | 2,639,310 | 6,280 | 1,908,419 | 6,222 | - | 1,521 |
| CHO 6 | Dublin South East | 531,981 | 1,395 | 596,274 | 1,526 | - | - |
| CHO 6 | Dun Laoghaire | 693,147 | 1,710 | 805,839 | 1,768 | - | 132 |
| CHO 6 | Wicklow | 764,842 | 1,330 | 513,858 | 1,222 | - | 31 |
| CHO 6 | Total | 1,989,970 | 4,435 | 1,915,971 | 4,516 | - | 163 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin South City | 542,951 | 1,680 | 478,346 | 1,478 | 47 | 130 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin South West | 714,409 | 1,870 | 644,950 | 1,682 | 107 | 274 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin West | 571,531 | 1,568 | 504,332 | 1,327 | 48 | 201 |
| CHO 7 | Kildare West Wicklow | 1,028,749 | 2,002 | 682,850 | 1,685 | 80 | 113 |
| CHO 7 | Total | 2,857,640 | 7,120 | 2,310,477 | 6,172 | 282 | 718 |
| CHO 8 | Laois Offaly | 580,542 | 1,257 | 560,357 | 1,427 | 8 | - |
| CHO 8 | Longford Westmeath | 608,188 | 1,452 | 559,830 | 1,404 | - | 113 |
| CHO 8 | Louth | 552,898 | 1,807 | 414,250 | 1,450 | - | 147 |
| CHO 8 | Meath | 635,832 | 1,419 | 580,839 | 1,672 | - | 204 |
| CHO 8 | Total | 2,377,460 | 5,935 | 2,115,276 | 5,953 | 8 | 464 |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North | 1,579,597 | 2,738 | 1,318,969 | 3,037 | 13 | 74 |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North Central | 1,257,306 | 2,425 | 1,021,566 | 2,220 | 29 | - |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North West | 746,487 | 2,127 | 991,308 | 2,218 | 23 | - |
| CHO 9 | Total | 3,583,390 | 7,290 | 3,331,843 | 7,475 | 65 | 74 |
| National Total | | 23,670,000 | 55,675 | 20,463,216 | 55,043 | 474 | 5,322 |