



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach  
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tíre,  
An Lú, An Mhí

Oifig na bPríomhoifigeach, An Chéad Urlár,  
Coimhleasc Naomh Bríd, Bóthar Cheanannais  
Bhaile Átha Fhirdia, Co Lú, A92 DRN0

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31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Deputy Peadar Tóibín  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re PQ 2407/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in County Meath who have requested additional homecare hours; and the average waiting times for receiving additional care – Peadar Tóibín**

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

From 19th January 2021 - 21st January 2022, 656 requests were made for an increase to an existing home care package. Given consideration to the Covid working environment and ongoing difficulties in recruiting home care staff (both HSE staff and external agency staff) the average waiting time for an increase to an existing home care package is currently approximately six months.

However a recruitment campaign has taken place within CHO8 and this will continue to recruit additional Health Care Support Assistants in Meath and other areas across CHO8 to address gaps in service provision. Ongoing discussions are also taking place with all approved private agencies, to support the agencies with additional recruitment campaigns.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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Des O'Flynn  
Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation