

**Ceann Seirbhísí Daoine Scothaosta**

Limistéar Cúram Sláinte Pobail an
Oirdheiscirt | Leacain |
Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath | Cill Chainnigh |
R95 NV08

Head of Service Older Persons Tel: 056 7784140

South East Community Healthcare
Area | Lacken |
Dublin Road | Kilkenny |
R95 NV08

4th February 2022

Ms. Jennifer Murnane O Connor T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 2928/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of homecare support hours being provided in County Carlow in 2022; the way this compares to 2020 and 2021; the number of persons currently waiting for homecare in the county; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murnane O' Connor,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The Home Support Office based in Kilkenny manages service provision for Home Support across the counties of Kilkenny and Carlow. Home Support data is therefore compiled as a single entity in the office and not per county.

The following table provides detail for 2020 and 2021 regarding; number of home support hours provided in total and the number of clients in receipt of a service.

Home Support Office Carlow / Kilkenny	2020	2021
Total Number of Hours Provided	451,139	492,603
The number of clients in receipt of a service	1452	1581

Regarding Home Support targets set for 2022 the budget allocation to South East Community Healthcare Area is calculated using both indirect plus 5% and direct 'Year to Date' October 2021 outturns and full year effect December 2021 hours. The expectation therefore is to deliver hours as per December 2021 and provide enhanced and increased services across 2022.



As of the 31st December 2021, in the Carlow/Kilkenny area, a total of 135 people were waiting for either/ or

- i) An increase in their current Home Support service
- ii) An allocation of a service for the first time

Whilst the funding of services is not an issue to deliver Home Support there continues to be significant challenges for both HSE and Private Providers in sourcing eligible staff. Rolling recruitment occurred across 2021 with a number of staff due to commence late February 20

Funding of services is not the issue in relation to service delivery. There are significant challenges (HSE and Private Providers) in sourcing home support staff at present.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen McDaid', written over a light grey dotted grid background.

Helen McDaid
Head of Service
South East Community Healthcare