



28th June 2022

Deputy Catherine Connolly,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Connolly,

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 30096/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in receipt of home support hours by CHO area in each of the months January to May 2022; 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.

NSP 2022 provides for the following: -

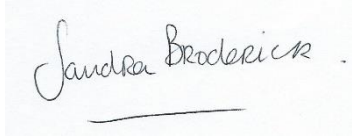
- Rollover of the 2021 target levels of service into 2022, inclusive of the additional 5m hours funded in 2021 to 23.67m hours nationally
- 360,000 hours provided via Intensive Home Care Packages
- 230,000 hours associated with the roll-out of the pilot Statutory Home Support Scheme, which commenced 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 May 2022. As of this date, 8,729,640 Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 55,392 people. Also, as of this date, there were 348 people assessed and waiting for funding for new or additional home support, while 4,720 people were assessed and approved for Home Support but are awaiting a carer to be assigned. Please see Appendix 1 below for a breakdown of Home Support activity as at end of May 2022.

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 cursive script that reads "Sandra Broderick". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background. Below the signature is a thin, horizontal black line.

Sandra Broderick
Assistant National Director – Operations
Services for Older People

Appendix 1 – Home Support Activity May 2022 YTD

| CHO Area | No of Clients in Receipt of Home Support | | | | |
|--------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Jan 22 | Feb 22 | Mar 22 | Apr 22 | May 22 |
| CHO 1 | 4,410 | 4,462 | 4,436 | 4,449 | 4,482 |
| CHO 2 | 6,666 | 6,663 | 6,587 | 6,549 | 6,589 |
| CHO 3 | 4,606 | 4,654 | 4,667 | 4,700 | 4,733 |
| CHO 4 | 9,076 | 9,086 | 9,098 | 9,093 | 9,135 |
| CHO 5 | 6,040 | 6,123 | 6,149 | 6,269 | 6,372 |
| CHO 6 | 4,555 | 4,610 | 4,636 | 4,191 | 4,175 |
| CHO 7 | 6,141 | 6,173 | 6,220 | 6,174 | 6,253 |
| CHO 8 | 5,891 | 5,974 | 6,050 | 6,164 | 6,293 |
| CHO 9 | 7,440 | 7,468 | 7,500 | 7,439 | 7,360 |
| Total | 54,825 | 55,213 | 55,343 | 55,028 | 55,392 |