

**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 7784319

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

15th March 2022

Mr. Johnny Mythen T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

PQ 12965/22

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a copy of the report on the HSE internal review of home support services in Wexford that was completed in November 2021.

PQ 12966/22

To ask the Minister for Health the details of the resources allocated for the review of home support services in Wexford that was decided at the South East Community Healthcare governance meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

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

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

As outlined in my previous response to PQ 6081/22, 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 in the South East Area are provided in line with HSE national guidelines. Services are provided in the first instance directly by the HSE or by private providers that have a service arrangement with the HSE.

Despite the significant level of service provision, the demand for Home Support continues to grow as the population aged over 65 years increases. Those who are on the waiting list have been assessed and are reviewed, as funding becomes available, to ensure that individual cases continue to be dealt with on a priority basis within the available resources, having regard to the client's assessed needs and current Public Health advice. Individuals names are removed from the waiting list in chronological order with priority given to those being discharged from acute hospitals, who are in a position to return home with supports.

The HSE internal review of Home Support Services Wexford was completed in November 2021 and made available to the Head of Services Older Persons. The report identified a number of recommendations which, to bring to fruition will form part of the SECH initiative, 'Home Support



Improvement Programme'. This programme requires an integrated care group approach throughout SECH which will be delivered through a structured and project managed approach. The recommendations from Home Support Review November 2021 are timely as Home Support Services will, in the future, fall within a regulatory framework. Furthermore, Home Support Services should be developed across SECH in accordance with Slaintecare, 'Right Time, Right Place' principles moving to delivering a sustainable service which is 'fit for purpose' and can expand as demand increases.

CHO/SECH are putting in place a small project team with lead responsibility across the South East area to deliver the Home Support Improvement Programme.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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

Helen McDaid
Head of Service
South East Community Healthcare