



24th March 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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 12974/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for homecare packages; the number of persons experiencing delayed discharge from hospital due to a delay accessing homecare; and the waiting lists for homecare packages by CHO and LHO in tabular form.

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: -

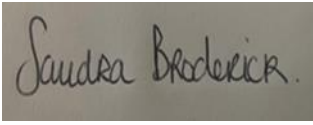
- Rollover of the 2021 target levels of service into 2022, inclusive of the additional 5m hours funded in 2021 to 23.67m hours nationally
- 360,000 hours provided via Intensive Home Care Packages
- 230,000 hours associated with the roll-out of the pilot Statutory Home Support Scheme, which commenced 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 January 2022. As of this date, 1,714,233 Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 54,825 people. Also, as of this date, there were 320 people assessed and waiting for funding for new or additional home support, while 4,836 people were assessed and approved for Home Support but are awaiting a carer to be assigned. Please see Appendix 1 for a breakdown of the Home Support Waiting List by CHO and LHO in tabular form as requested. As at 01 March 2022 there were 116 people delayed in hospital awaiting discharge home, of which 94 have been assessed and approved for home support and are waiting on either funding approval or carer availability to commence a service.

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 rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Broderick".

Sandra Broderick
Assistant National Director
Community Operations – Services for Older People

Appendix 1

Home Support Waiting List - January 2022

Report Date: 22/03/2022

| CHO | LHO | Funding | Carers |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | | Jan 22 | Jan 22 |
| CHO 1 | Cavan Monaghan | 0 | 233 |
| CHO 1 | Donegal | 1 | 214 |
| CHO 1 | Sligo Leitrim | 0 | 49 |
| CHO 1 | Total | 1 | 496 |
| CHO 2 | Galway | 0 | 278 |
| CHO 2 | Mayo | 0 | 273 |
| CHO 2 | Roscommon | 0 | 126 |
| CHO 2 | Total | 0 | 677 |
| CHO 3 | Clare | 0 | 265 |
| CHO 3 | Limerick | 0 | 145 |
| CHO 3 | North Tipperary East Limerick | 0 | 114 |
| CHO 3 | Total | 0 | 524 |
| CHO 4 | Kerry | 1 | 220 |
| CHO 4 | North Cork | 0 | 108 |
| CHO 4 | North Lee | 0 | 140 |
| CHO 4 | South Lee | 0 | 249 |
| CHO 4 | West Cork | 0 | 125 |
| CHO 4 | Total | 1 | 842 |
| CHO 5 | Carlow Kilkenny | 0 | 109 |
| CHO 5 | South Tipperary | 0 | 201 |
| CHO 5 | Waterford | 0 | 149 |
| CHO 5 | Wexford | 0 | 436 |
| CHO 5 | Total | 0 | 895 |
| CHO 6 | Dublin South East | 0 | 120 |
| CHO 6 | Dun Laoghaire | 0 | 95 |
| CHO 6 | Wicklow | 0 | 36 |
| CHO 6 | Total | 0 | 251 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin South City | 10 | 151 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin South West | 0 | 250 |
| CHO 7 | Dublin West | 0 | 179 |
| CHO 7 | Kildare West Wicklow | 122 | 140 |
| CHO 7 | Total | 132 | 720 |
| CHO 8 | Laois Offaly | 7 | 0 |
| CHO 8 | Longford Westmeath | 0 | 92 |
| CHO 8 | Louth | 0 | 123 |
| CHO 8 | Meath | 0 | 166 |
| CHO 8 | Total | 7 | 381 |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North | 9 | 50 |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North Central | 27 | 0 |
| CHO 9 | Dublin North West | 97 | 0 |
| CHO 9 | Total | 133 | 50 |
| National Total | | 274 | 4836 |