



24th March 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall TD,
Dáil Eireann,
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 12975/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for assessment for homecare packages by CHO, age category and time waiting 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.

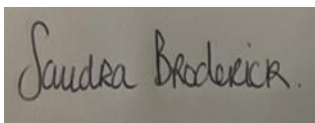
Despite the significant level of service provision, the demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, has grown considerably over the past number of years. Similarly, the type of Home Support that is now required to meet the needs of the population is a more 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.

In relation to your question regarding the number of persons on a waiting list for assessment for homecare packages by CHO, age category and time waiting in tabular form, the HSE currently does not collate that information nationally. While this information may be available locally, it would take considerable resources to collate this nationally.

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