



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Pobail
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

Office of the Assistant National Director –
Community Operations
Services for Older People

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)
t 087 345 5593
e olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

18th May 2022

Deputy Séan Haughey,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Haughey,

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: 22/21876

To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the provision of homecare services; if a new tender will issue to provide these services in the coming weeks; if community and voluntary providers will be given sufficient details and notice to allow them submit tenders; if the community dimension of homecare can be safeguarded in this process; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

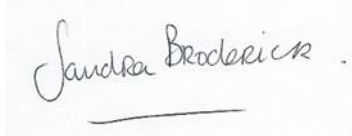
The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE and having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the services from those people with assessed needs.

Home Support services are provided by both directly employed Healthcare Support Assistants (HCSAs) and Approved Providers with formal tendered arrangements with the HSE. The current Home Support Tender arrangements are due to expire on 31 December 2022. The HSE is currently considering and developing a suitable tender strategy to meet service requirements. At this time that strategy has not been finalised. Service standards and value for money will be addressed in the tender, as they have been in previous tenders.

It is anticipated that the HSE will be in a position to issue the Invitation to Tender on the e-tenders website by mid-late Q3 with deadline for new Tender Framework to be established by end of 2022 to commence 01 January 2023.

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 background. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Sandra Broderick
Assistant National Director – Operations
Services for Older People