



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

21st November 2022

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

PQ 56298/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for homecare support in County Wexford; the average length of time that persons have been waiting; the single longest period of time that a person has been waiting; 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 Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

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

The Home Support Service funded by Government delivers supports each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. The Service, currently non-statutory, provides supports based on assessment of the person's needs. This clinical assessment is completed by the HSE. Subsequently, where the clinical Home Support criteria is met, an allocation of Home Support hours to an individual is dependent on the availability of staffing across the South East Community Healthcare, (SECH) region and are provided in line with HSE national guidelines and criteria. Services are provided in the first instance directly by HSE Health Care Support Assistants and in the absence of HSE staff by private providers that have a service arrangement with the HSE. Across SECH the HSE currently deliver 70% of Home Support Services.

The demand for Home Support continues to grow as the population aged over 65 years' increases. To date in 2022 more than 6,600 people have and are in receipt of Home Support. Those people 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 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.

There are 581 persons currently on the Home Support waiting list for County Wexford. With regards to your queries in relation to average length of time waiting and single longest period of time waiting, this information is not part of the national KPI reporting requirements and therefore not routinely collated at this time.



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

Yours sincerely,

Helen McDaid
Head of Service
South East Community Healthcare