Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta Oibríochtaí Pobail Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

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

www.hse.ie
@hselive
t   087 345 5593
e   olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

03 May 2023

Roisin Shortall,
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 17852/23
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 home care 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 an assessment of the person's needs by the HSE, having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the service. The volume and type of service provided to each client is based on individually assessed care needs and will vary dependent on the needs identified and the resources available to meet those needs.

Demand for Home Support continues to increase due to population growth and the increasing dependency of the growing numbers of people aged ≥80years, within the over 65 years' cohort. Waiting lists for Home Support have become a feature of the service, now primarily associated with an increasing capacity issue related to the availability of care staff. In terms of those waiting, priority is given to those in the community with acute needs and to those assessed and waiting in acute hospitals, who are in a position to return home with supports. Funding approval for Home Support for those assessed as requiring same is expedited across the system to ensure minimum waiting times.

Available waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home support. Please see Appendix 1 below for a breakdown of the Home Support Waiting List as at end of March 2023 by CHO and LHO.

In terms of Delayed Transfer of Care Report (DTOC) activity as at the 29th March shows that of the 604 people delayed in the acute system at that date, 91 were categorised as Type A, Destination Home, Of these, 15 had submitted their application for their Home Support Package (HSP) but were waiting for funding with 54 others having funding approved but were waiting on carer availability.

Yours sincerely,

_____
Kathleen Jordan
Head of Service – Home Support
Services for Older People
Community Operations

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Appendix 1: Home Support Waiting List March 2023 by CHO/ LHO.

		WAITING LIST - MARCH 2023					
		Funding			Carers		
CHO	LHO	New	Additional	Total	New	Additional	Total
National Total		**4**	**3**	**7**	**3,524**	**2,908**	**6,432**
CHO 1	**Total**	-	-	-	**291**	**382**	**673**
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	-	-	-	73	265	338
CHO 1	Donegal	-	-	-	180	76	256
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	-	-	-	38	41	79
CHO 2	**Total**	-	-	-	**251**	**348**	**599**
CHO 2	Galway	-	-	-	46	102	148
CHO 2	Mayo	-	-	-	195	145	340
CHO 2	Roscommon	-	-	-	10	101	111
CHO 3	**Total**	-	-	-	**301**	**376**	**677**
CHO 3	Clare	-	-	-	165	202	367
CHO 3	Limerick	-	-	-	95	100	195
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limeric	-	-	-	41	74	115
CHO 4	**Total**	-	-	-	**985**	**590**	**1,575**
CHO 4	Kerry	-	-	-	240	119	359
CHO 4	North Cork	-	-	-	72	38	110
CHO 4	North Lee	-	-	-	137	65	202
CHO 4	South Lee	-	-	-	466	294	760
CHO 4	West Cork	-	-	-	70	74	144
CHO 5	**Total**	-	-	-	**334**	**654**	**988**
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	-	-	-	38	88	126
CHO 5	South Tipperary	-	-	-	47	86	133
CHO 5	Waterford	-	-	-	78	153	231
CHO 5	Wexford	-	-	-	171	327	498
CHO 6	**Total**	-	-	-	**161**	**240**	**401**
CHO 6	Dublin South East	-	-	-	28	79	107
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	-	-	-	72	102	174
CHO 6	Wicklow	-	-	-	61	59	120
CHO 7	**Total**	-	-	-	**595**	**33**	**628**
CHO 7	Dublin South City	-	-	-	57	10	67
CHO 7	Dublin South West	-	-	-	193	-	193
CHO 7	Dublin West	-	-	-	215	23	238
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	-	-	-	130	-	130
CHO 8	**Total**	-	-	-	**540**	**247**	**787**
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	-	-	-	394	-	394
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	-	-	-	39	8	47
CHO 8	Louth	-	-	-	34	136	170
CHO 8	Meath	-	-	-	73	103	176
CHO 9	**Total**	**4**	**3**	**7**	**66**	**38**	**104**
CHO 9	Dublin North	4	3	7	52	25	77
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	-	-	-	4	-	4
CHO 9	Dublin North West	-	-	-	10	13	23