



5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Mr Paul Donnelly TD  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 18949/23**

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

The Minister for Health has requested the HSE to respond directly to your Parliamentary Question;

**To ask the Minister for Health how the additional €1.75m will be spent on the meals-on-wheels service during 2023.**

There are currently 342 Meals on Wheels organisations in operation nationally delivering 250,000 (average) meals monthly to approximately 180,000 clients. These organisations are geographically located across 9 Community Health Organisations (CHO) and budgets are managed locally through each CHO.

Details of the additional €1.75m for Meals on Wheels in 2023, has been communicated to CHO Older Person Services for their onward distribution to the local service providers, with a request to review and target where needed most. Allocation of funding was made pro rata to the number of services and service users per CHO. Table 1 below details the amount received per CHO.

**Table 1**

CHO	No of MOWs Services	Av No of MOW Clients Per Week 2022	Approx No of Meals provided 2022	Additional 2023 Meals on Wheels Funding Allocation (from €1.75m)
1	44	3530	142,481	€ 230,000.00
2	41	7932	335,291	€ 210,000.00
3	24	4468	278,897	€ 110,000.00
4	86	12092	516,057	€ 430,000.00
5	29	6836	258,247	€ 160,000.00
6	17	2771	169,247	€ 90,000.00
7	34	4626	252,844	€ 170,000.00
8	35	8728	275,015	€ 180,000.00
9	32	3509	166,468	€ 170,000.00
	<b>342</b>	<b>54491</b>	<b>2,394,547</b>	<b>€1,750,000.00</b>



An overall evaluation of Meals on Wheels services is continuing. This will include direct work with CHOs and consultation with the Irish Rural Network, Meals on Wheels Network Development Officer to understand gaps in availability and capacity of providers to increase or improve service delivery.

Yours sincerely,

**Fiona Hammond**  
**General Manager**  
**Intermediate Care Lead**  
**HSE Community Operations, Services for Older People**

