



27 July 2023

**Deputy Patricia Ryan,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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 34715/23

To ask the Minister for Health if, with regard to the Public Sector Performance Report and figures showing that only 80 of a targeted 235 intensive homecare packages were delivered, he can explain the reason for the 66% shortfall; what measures he and his Department will put in place to ensure that all intensive homecare packages are delivered in future; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 34716/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he can explain the 66% shortfall where only 80 of 235 targeted homecare packages were delivered (Public Sector Performance Report 2022); what measures the Government intends to take to ensure targets are met in future; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The roll out of Intensive Home Care Packages (IHCPs) commenced in January 2015 and was introduced at the time to provide home support clients with higher levels of assessed care needs or complexity, in receipt of a considerably higher value of supports in the Community to facilitate:-

- (a) return home from hospital or residential care and/or
- (b) prevent attendance/admission to A&E/Acute Hospital and/or
- (c) prevent or delay admission to long term residential care.
- (d) to support people with dementia

In addition to Intensive Home Care Packages, the HSE continues to provide mainstream Home Support and other appropriate community based supports such as day care, respite etc. to people whose needs have been assessed as requiring these supports and within available resources.

NSP 2021 saw a significant investment in Home Support with additional funding provided to support the delivery of additional 5m hours across the CHOs and includes provision of funding to meet the needs of those clients with high level of care needs who may have previously been considered under the IHCP scheme. Funding approval is expedited and 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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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