



2 August 2023

**Deputy Róisín 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 36501/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for homecare packages, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and the number of persons experiencing delayed discharge from hospital due to a delay in accessing homecare.

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, 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. In the context of increasing demand, priority is given to those being discharged from acute hospitals who are in a position to return home with supports and to those in the community with acute needs. Funding approval is expedited across the system to ensure minimum waiting times. While there may be delays between the approval of funding and the availability of carers to commence delivery of home support hours in certain regions, significant work is underway to address these challenges. The HSE advertises on an ongoing basis for Health Care Support Assistants (HCSAs) and recruits as many suitable candidates where possible.

Available waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home support.

We can provide activity by:

- Number of Clients assessed and waiting for Care Staff.

Appendix 1 provides a breakdown of the Home Support Waiting List at National/ LHO/CHO level at a point in time date of the 30th of June 2023 (latest available data).



In terms of Delayed Transfer of Care Report (DTCR) activity as at the 27th of June shows that of the 484 people delayed in the acute system at that date, 74 were categorised as Type A, Destination Home. Of these, 12 had submitted their application for their Home Support Package (HSP) but were waiting for funding with 42 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



Appendix 1 shows a breakdown of the Home Support Waiting List at National/ LHO/CHO level June 2023.

		WAITING LIST		
		Carers		
CHO	LHO	Total	New	Additional
National Total		6,020	3,075	2,945
CHO 1	Total	650	260	390
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	348	64	284
CHO 1	Donegal	219	144	75
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	83	52	31
CHO 2	Total	659	224	435
CHO 2	Galway	257	77	180
CHO 2	Mayo	277	140	137
CHO 2	Roscommon	125	7	118
CHO 3	Total	550	238	312
CHO 3	Clare	252	102	150
CHO 3	Limerick	182	82	100
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	116	54	62
CHO 4	Total	1,591	1,010	581
CHO 4	Kerry	273	162	111
CHO 4	North Cork	121	78	43
CHO 4	North Lee	132	81	51
CHO 4	South Lee	909	607	302
CHO 4	West Cork	156	82	74
CHO 5	Total	957	241	716
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	100	15	85
CHO 5	South Tipperary	124	38	86
CHO 5	Waterford	216	50	166
CHO 5	Wexford	517	138	379
CHO 6	Total	262	89	173
CHO 6	Dublin South East	79	23	56
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	36	3	33
CHO 6	Wicklow	147	63	84
CHO 7	Total	531	483	48
CHO 7	Dublin South City	85	61	24
CHO 7	Dublin South West	75	75	-
CHO 7	Dublin West	263	239	24
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	108	108	-
CHO 8	Total	738	481	257
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	314	314	-
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	89	51	38
CHO 8	Louth	182	50	132
CHO 8	Meath	153	66	87
CHO 9	Total	82	49	33
CHO 9	Dublin North	67	42	25
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	4	3	1
CHO 9	Dublin North West	11	4	7