



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Pobail
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

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

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08 August 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 34717/23

To ask the Minister for Health if, with reference to the Public Sector Performance Report 2022 and figures showing approximately 40% of target home support house undelivered, what measures the Government will take to ensure targets are met; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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 and having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the services from those people with assessed 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 and availability of care staff, 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.

The most up to date activity reflects the period up to 30 June 2023, (latest available data) which indicates that 10,548,049 home support hours were delivered against a target of 11,828,272, a variance of -10.8 and an increase of 374,274 hours (+3.7%) when compared to the same period last year. The range of hours and types of service provided is based on the individual client's care needs assessment and varies accordingly. Please note that this data is preliminary and may be subject to change.

Yours sincerely,



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

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