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22nd June 2023,

Deputy Noel Grealish,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Grealish,

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 Number: 27090/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health when the report on the home support pilot study undertaken in four CHO areas will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The Home Support Pilot component of the reform programme commenced on the 1st November 2021 in the following local health organisations, Galway, Cork South Lee, Dublin West & Longford / Westmeath. The pilot's main objective was to gather and analyse quantitative and qualitative data to inform the development of a future home support service operating model in advance of regulation of Home Support Providers and the establishment of a Statutory Home Support Scheme. In addition, the pilot explored the use of the interRAI Home Care assessment across pilot sites and the factors that supported or impeded its use. The Centre for Effective Services (CES) were awarded the contract to complete an independent evaluation of the pilot in 2022 and the final report will be provided to the HSE in April 2023. The evaluation encompassed both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies including focus groups with key informants namely HSE pilot site staff, HSCAs, carers and clients.

The findings from the evaluation will enhance the evidence base for the design of all aspects of the Statutory Home Support scheme including the implementation of InterRAI across Home Support services. Additionally, the pilot will identify best practice in the standardisation of processes at a local and national level. The data gathered will inform the establishment of a standardised, equitable, and cost-effective Home Support service, and contribute to the delivery of enhanced levels of care within the community which will inform national strategy and planning for services for older people. The total number of Home Support hours delivered as part of the pilot was 110,496 with 109,240 provided in 2022.

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Services (CES) were awarded the contract to complete an independent evaluation of the pilot in 2022 and the final report was provided to the HSE in May 2023.

The final report was submitted to the DoH in May 2023 and a final decision on the process to share the learnings from pilot through the publication of the report are awaited pending further discussions with the DoH.

Kind Regards,



Ms Janette Dwyer
Assistant National Director,
Services for Older People, Change & Innovation