



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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09 June 2023

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 24219/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of allocated home support hours that cannot be filled, by LHO and CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Noel Grealish

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.

Despite the significant level of service provision, the demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, has grown considerably over the past number of years. 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. The overall home care resource and the range of providers, including HSE directly employed staff, is carefully managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each Community Healthcare Organisation, to ensure that this key service is available at the required times, in a flexible way and at the appropriate standard to support clients' assessed needs.

Recruitment and retention of home support staff for both direct and indirect service provision remains a significant challenge leading to capacity issues across the Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs). The HSE continues to advertise on an ongoing basis for Health Care Support Assistants (HCSAs) and recruits as many suitable candidates, where possible. The HSE conducts its recruitment through a variety of channels both at local level and through the shared service offices of HBS. Due to the nature of Health Care Support Assistants, recruitment is routinely conducted at a local level and is on-going across the HSE in an effort to ensure availability of carers.

In terms of the requested information, we do not collate data on unallocated Home Support hours. The latest available data relates to the year to date period up to the 30th of April, 2023.

Appendix 1 reflects the Home Support Hours delivered year to date period up to 30th April 2023 at National/CHO/LHO level.

Appendix 2 reflects the Waiting Lists at the point in time period of the 30th April 2023 at National/CHO/LHO level.

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

Appendix 1 – Home Support Hours delivered year to date period up to 30th April 2023 at National/CHO/LHO level.

		SERVICE PROVISION YTD
		Hours Delivered
CHO	LHO	Total
National Total		6,959,355
CHO 1	Total	786,574
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	191,629
CHO 1	Donegal	377,156
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	217,789
CHO 2	Total	710,414
CHO 2	Galway	368,934
CHO 2	Mayo	207,436
CHO 2	Roscommon	134,045
CHO 3	Total	610,449
CHO 3	Clare	204,658
CHO 3	Limerick	236,911
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	168,879
CHO 4	Total	861,977
CHO 4	Kerry	232,840
CHO 4	North Cork	126,734
CHO 4	North Lee	172,852
CHO 4	South Lee	231,018
CHO 4	West Cork	98,533
CHO 5	Total	680,320
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	184,253
CHO 5	South Tipperary	124,883
CHO 5	Waterford	155,515
CHO 5	Wexford	215,669
CHO 6	Total	611,298
CHO 6	Dublin South East	202,314
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	245,498
CHO 6	Wicklow	163,487
CHO 7	Total	761,673
CHO 7	Dublin South City	162,312
CHO 7	Dublin South West	206,160
CHO 7	Dublin West	162,646
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	230,555
CHO 8	Total	820,708
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	216,549
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	197,009
CHO 8	Louth	181,171
CHO 8	Meath	225,979
CHO 9	Total	1,115,943
CHO 9	Dublin North	466,740
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	308,389
CHO 9	Dublin North West	340,814

Appendix 2 – reflects the Waiting Lists at the point in time period of the 30th April 2023 at National/CHO/LHO level.

CHO	LHO	Funding	Carers
		Total	Total
National Total		1	6,194
CHO 1	Total	-	661
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	-	344
CHO 1	Donegal	-	263
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	-	54
CHO 2	Total	-	581
CHO 2	Galway	-	130
CHO 2	Mayo	-	342
CHO 2	Roscommon	-	109
CHO 3	Total	-	618
CHO 3	Clare	-	292
CHO 3	Limerick	-	211
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	-	115
CHO 4	Total	-	1,591
CHO 4	Kerry	-	381
CHO 4	North Cork	-	111
CHO 4	North Lee	-	198
CHO 4	South Lee	-	752
CHO 4	West Cork	-	149
CHO 5	Total	-	1,003
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	-	128
CHO 5	South Tipperary	-	118
CHO 5	Waterford	-	240
CHO 5	Wexford	-	517
CHO 6	Total	-	339
CHO 6	Dublin South East	-	59
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	-	167
CHO 6	Wicklow	-	113
CHO 7	Total	1	538
CHO 7	Dublin South City	1	62
CHO 7	Dublin South West	-	132
CHO 7	Dublin West	-	229
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	-	115
CHO 8	Total	-	768
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	-	377
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	-	48
CHO 8	Louth	-	169
CHO 8	Meath	-	174
CHO 9	Total	-	95
CHO 9	Dublin North	-	68
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	-	2
CHO 9	Dublin North West	-	25