



Ceann Daoine Aosta  
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7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Mr. Duncan Smith, TD  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

Email: [duncan.smith@oireachtas.ie](mailto:duncan.smith@oireachtas.ie)

**PQ 45824/23** *"To ask the Minister for Health the number of applicants for home support who have been approved but placed on a waiting list in CHO9; and the average waiting times for those approved and waiting for services."* - **Duncan Smith, TD**

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

At present, there are 10 approved applicants on the home support waiting list within Community Health Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC). The average waiting time is seven and a half weeks.

CHO DNCC Home Support Services are experiencing challenges sourcing agencies for Home Care Packages due to a shortage of carers in the community within the coastal areas of Dublin North. Malahide, Portmarnock, Howth and Sutton are the most affected areas.

CHO DNCC management teams Older Persons Services continue to work with Home Support Agencies in Dublin North Coastal areas in the trialing of a pilot project which began in early February 2023. The Pilot Project entails offering Fixed Hour Contracts to one of the not-for-profit organisations providing Home Support in the areas identified as experiencing challenges. The Fixed Hours Contracts have enabled the not-for-profit organisation to attract and recruit carers who have access to transport which enables them to travel more efficiently throughout these areas. As a result, service users in the area have benefited from a set group of carers, working on a client centered roster, focusing on the care needs of the person.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

**Essene Cassidy**  
**Head of Older Persons Services**