



21<sup>st</sup> September 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 39236/23**

**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. Please see Appendix 1 which details the number of clients assessed and waiting for Home Support Services at by LHO/CHO at the point in time date of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

With regard to delayed discharges, available data indicates that on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 37 people were ready for discharge nationally, but were awaiting a carer to be assigned.

Yours sincerely,

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

## Appendix 1 – Home Support Waiting List – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

		WAITING LIST - JULY 2023					
		Funding			Carers		
CHO	LHO	New	Addition	Total	New	Addition	Total
<b>National Total</b>		-	-	-	<b>3,151</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>5,992</b>
<b>CHO 1</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>264</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>663</b>
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	-	-	-	56	281	337
CHO 1	Donegal	-	-	-	142	69	211
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	-	-	-	66	49	115
<b>CHO 2</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>208</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>605</b>
CHO 2	Galway	-	-	-	67	173	240
CHO 2	Mayo	-	-	-	134	112	246
CHO 2	Roscommon	-	-	-	7	112	119
<b>CHO 3</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>285</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>663</b>
CHO 3	Clare	-	-	-	123	185	308
CHO 3	LimericL	-	-	-	101	122	223
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limeric	-	-	-	61	71	132
<b>CHO 4</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>1,057</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>1,678</b>
CHO 4	Lerry	-	-	-	160	105	265
CHO 4	North CorL	-	-	-	58	49	107
CHO 4	North Lee	-	-	-	82	52	134
CHO 4	South Lee	-	-	-	668	335	1,003
CHO 4	West CorL	-	-	-	89	80	169
<b>CHO 5</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>257</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>917</b>
CHO 5	Carlow LilLenny	-	-	-	32	85	117
CHO 5	South Tipperary	-	-	-	52	77	129
CHO 5	Waterford	-	-	-	72	185	257
CHO 5	Wexford	-	-	-	101	313	414
<b>CHO 6</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>134</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>278</b>
CHO 6	Dublin South East	-	-	-	37	47	84
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	-	-	-	19	20	39
CHO 6	WicLow	-	-	-	78	77	155
<b>CHO 7</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>466</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>494</b>
CHO 7	Dublin South City	-	-	-	59	6	65
CHO 7	Dublin South West	-	-	-	72	-	72
CHO 7	Dublin West	-	-	-	233	22	255
CHO 7	Lildare West WicLow	-	-	-	102	-	102
<b>CHO 8</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>473</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>676</b>
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	-	-	-	311	-	311
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	-	-	-	64	28	92
CHO 8	Louth	-	-	-	32	99	131
CHO 8	Meath	-	-	-	66	76	142
<b>CHO 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>
CHO 9	Dublin North	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	-	-	-	2	-	2
CHO 9	Dublin North West	-	-	-	5	11	16

*Note – CHO9 data is slightly understated for July due to non-submission in Dublin North for that period.*