



**23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**

**Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.**

**Dear Deputy Cullinane,**

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 30408/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the cost of 100 intensive home care packages. -David Cullinane**

**PQ 30332/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on intensive home care package waiting lists at the latest available data point for 2024; the number waiting on approval and for funding, in tabular form. -David Cullinane**

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.

The cost of providing 100 Intensive Home Care Packages would be in the region of €9.6m per year.

In relation to your query on intensive home care package waiting lists at the latest available data point for 2024; the number waiting on approval and for funding, this information is not collated nationally. Those waiting on an Intensive Home Care Package are prioritised as detailed above and waiting lists are managed on a local level.

In addition to the provision of Intensive Home Care Packages, the HSE continues to provide mainstream Home Support and other appropriate community based supports such as day care, respite etc. to people whose needs have been assessed as requiring these supports and within available resources.

Yours sincerely,

*Kathleen Jordan*

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**Kathleen Jordan**

**Head of Service – Home Support**

**Services for Older People – Access and Integration**