



29th July 2024

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 30795/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for homecare packages; the number of persons experiencing delayed discharge from hospital due to a delay accessing homecare; and the waiting lists for homecare packages, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form. -Róisín Shortall

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.

Available waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home Support as at 31st May 2024. Please see Appendix 1 which details the number of clients assessed and waiting for Home Support Services at by CHO and LHO in 2024. As of this date the total number of people assessed and waiting for a carer to be assigned stood at 4,702. Of the 4,702 waiting on a carer to be assigned, 2,081 are new clients and 2,621 are existing clients waiting on additional service. Please note that data is preliminary in nature and subject to change/amendment, noting latest data return rate of 96.9%.

With regard to delayed discharges, available data indicates that as at 28th May 2024 (latest available data as at end May 2024) 414 people were recorded as a delayed transfer of care. Of the 414, 43 were categorised as Type A - Destination Home, with 31 waiting for a carer to be assigned.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.

Kathleen Jordan

Head of Service – Home Support

Services for Older People – Access and Integration

Appendix 1. Details the number of clients assessed and on a waiting list for home support at 31st May 2024, by CHO and LHO.

*Note that data is preliminary in nature and subject to change/amendment

Waiting List for Carers (New and Additional) at 31st May 2024.

Home Support Waiting List - Waiting on Carers

CHO	Description	2024
National Total		4,702
CHO1 Total		674
CHO1	Cavan Monaghan	272
CHO1	Donegal	270
CHO1	Sligo Leitrim	132
CHO2 Total		261
CHO2	Galway	-
CHO2	Mayo	145
CHO2	Roscommon	116
CHO3 Total		752
CHO3	Clare	347
CHO3	Limerick	285
CHO3	North Tipperary East Limerick	120
CHO4 Total		1,160
CHO4	Kerry	97
CHO4	North Cork	91
CHO4	North Lee	168
CHO4	South Lee	662
CHO4	West Cork	142
CHO5 Total		851
CHO5	Carlow Kilkenny	157
CHO5	South Tipperary	157
CHO5	Waterford	232
CHO5	Wexford	305
CHO6 Total		285
CHO6	Dublin South East	82
CHO6	Dun Laoghaire	7
CHO6	Wicklow	196
CHO7 Total		288
CHO7	Dublin South City	5
CHO7	Dublin South West	229
CHO7	Dublin West	1
CHO7	Kildare West Wicklow	53
CHO8 Total		431
CHO8	Laois Offaly	101
CHO8	Longford Westmeath	173
CHO8	Louth	57
CHO8	Meath	100
CHO9 Total		-
CHO9	Dublin North	-
CHO9	Dublin North Central	-
CHO9	Dublin North West	-