



03/07/2024

Deputy Guirke,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Guirke,

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 26581/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of people nationwide currently awaiting the physical provision of home care hours, by county and by waiting times, on a monthly basis, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Johnny Guirke.**

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.

Latest available preliminary data reflects the period up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2024. As of this date the total number of people assessed and waiting for a carer to be assigned stood at 4,702\*, noting data gap in May returns and a data return rate of 96.9%. Of the 4,702 reported waiting on a carer to be assigned, 2,081 are new clients and 2,621 are existing clients waiting on additional service. As of same date, the number of people assessed for Home Support and waiting on funding approval stood at zero.

Please see Appendix 1 hereunder.

Yours sincerely,

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**Kathleen Jordan**  
Head of Service – Home Support  
Services for Older People – Access and Integration

**Appendix 1. Details the number of clients assessed and waiting for care staff for the provision of Home Support for each month in 2024, in each CHO and LHO.**

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

**Carers - Total [New & Additional]**

CHO	RHA	LHO	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24
<b>National Total</b>			<b>5,532</b>	<b>5,557</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>4,702</b>
<b>CHO1 Total</b>			<b>617</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>674</b>
CHO1	RHA6	Cavan Monaghan	286	269	269	266	272
CHO1	RHA1	Donegal	246	286	277	260	270
CHO1	RHA1	Sligo Leitrim	85	97	146	133	132
<b>CHO2 Total</b>			<b>841</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>261</b>
CHO2	RHA1	Galway	522	585	597	629	-
CHO2	RHA1	Mayo	220	224	225	159	145
CHO2	RHA1	Roscommon	99	100	113	118	116
<b>CHO3 Total</b>			<b>772</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>752</b>
CHO3	RHA2	Clare	368	280	318	304	347
CHO3	RHA2	Limerick	278	287	285	299	285
CHO3	RHA2	North Tipperary East Limerick	126	148	191	160	120
<b>CHO4 Total</b>			<b>1,196</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>1,302</b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>1,160</b>
CHO4	RHA3	Kerry	100	89	58	101	97
CHO4	RHA3	North Cork	70	73	90	84	91
CHO4	RHA3	North Lee	128	143	172	173	168
CHO4	RHA3	South Lee	751	764	840	786	662
CHO4	RHA3	West Cork	147	141	142	140	142
<b>CHO5 Total</b>			<b>822</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>851</b>
CHO5	RHA4	Carlow Kilkenny	175	198	177	179	157
CHO5	RHA4	South Tipperary	121	159	144	142	157
CHO5	RHA4	Waterford	189	176	180	217	232
CHO5	RHA4	Wexford	337	368	368	338	305
<b>CHO6 Total</b>			<b>295</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>285</b>
CHO6	RHA4	Dublin South East	117	107	60	90	82
CHO6	RHA4	Dun Laoghaire	53	37	45	5	7
CHO6	RHA4	Wicklow	125	119	147	144	196
<b>CHO7 Total</b>			<b>422</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>288</b>
CHO7	RHA5	Dublin South City	22	-	-	3	5
CHO7	RHA5	Dublin South West	313	263	251	223	229
CHO7	RHA5	Dublin West	4	1	2	1	1
CHO7	RHA5	Kildare West Wicklow	83	110	58	53	53
<b>CHO8 Total</b>			<b>558</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>431</b>
CHO8	RHA5	Laois Offaly	137	123	146	115	101
CHO8	RHA5	Longford Westmeath	208	167	170	169	173
CHO8	RHA6	Louth	124	118	125	82	57
CHO8	RHA6	Meath	89	119	105	139	100
<b>CHO9 Total</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>
CHO9	RHA6	Dublin North	9	6	7	8	-
CHO9	RHA6	Dublin North Central	-	-	-	-	-
CHO9	RHA6	Dublin North West	-	-	-	-	-