



Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,
Caladh an Treoigh,
Luimneach.

Office of the Assistant National Director,
National Disability Team,
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
National Technology Park,
Castletroy,
Limerick.

1st October 2024

Deputy Patricia Ryan,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: patricia.ryan@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Ryan,

The Health Service Executive 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: 36983/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of hours of disability home support delivered to date in 2024, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and how that compares to disability home support targets.

HSE Response

The HSE provides a range of assisted living services including Personal Assistant and Home Support Services to support individuals to maximise their capacity to live full and independent lives.

PA and Home Support Services are provided either directly by the HSE or through a range of voluntary service providers. The majority of specialised disability provision (80%) is delivered through non-statutory sector service providers.

Services are accessed through an application process or through referrals from public health nurses or other community based staff. Individuals' needs are evaluated against the criteria for prioritisation for the particular services and then decisions are made in relation to the allocation of resources. Resource allocation is determined by the needs of the individual, compliance with prioritisation criteria, and the level of resources available. As with every service there is not a limitless resource available for the provision of home support services and while the resources available are substantial they are finite. In this context, services are discretionary and the number of hours granted is determined by other support services already provided to the person/family.



Home Support hours provided

Activity Data Quarter 2 2024: Home Support Services

The delivery of Home Support Services has remained steady during the first half of 2024; Home Support Services delivered 1,882,693 hours to end Q2 2024, which was 8.2% ahead of the NSP target and significantly ahead of the same period last year.

See Table below. Breakdown per CHO area.

Table 1 – Home Support Services for Persons with a Disability, end of Quarter 2 2024

	Number of Adults with a disability in Receipt of Home Support Services		Number of Hours Home Support Services Delivered
CHO	Q2 2024		Q2 2024
National Total	6,935		1,882,693
CHO Area 1	1,009		276,935
CHO Area 2	566		136,629
CHO Area 3	695		181,638
CHO Area 4	627		106,162
CHO Area 5	791		199,465
CHO Area 6	506		180,516
CHO Area 7	850		223,257
CHO Area 8	710		218,533
CHO Area 9	1,181		359,559

The need for increased services is acknowledged and the HSE continues to work with agencies to explore various ways of responding to this need in line with the budget available.

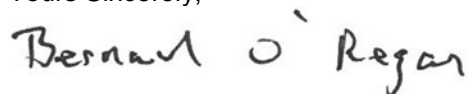
Future Planning

With regard to additional PA and Home Support Services, the Department of Health's 2021 Disability Capacity Review advises that up to €15 million per year by 2032 – equivalent to 600,000 additional hours - is needed to meet the requirements for Personal Assistants and Home Support.

The Action Plan for Disability Services 2024 – 2026 advises that 800,000 extra PA hours and 110,000 extra hours a year is required by 2026 to address shortfall in services and to support individuals with disabilities to live a fuller more independent life and participate in normal activities in the community, in line with UNCRPD Article 19.

Each CHO continues to actively manage applications for support from service users with high levels of acuity/safeguarding risks, through active case-management and inter-agency cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

