



11<sup>th</sup> April, 2025

Deputy Erin McGreehan,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy McGreehan,

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: 16126/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has plans to allocate targeted funding for rural home care delivery in order to address the long waiting lists. -Erin McGreehan**

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 HSE's National Service Plan 2025 provides for the delivery of 24.3m hours of home support to 60,000 service users. Each Health Region has been allocated funding relative to the area's home support targets. The home support service is managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each Community Healthcare Organisation/Health Region to ensure that this key service is available at the required times, in a flexible way and at the appropriate standard to support clients' assessed 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. Available preliminary waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home Support as at end of February 2025. As of this date, the total number of people assessed and waiting for a carer to be assigned stood at 4,628; 2,124 were new clients and 2,504 were existing clients already in receipt of Home Support but waiting on additional service to commence.

Yours sincerely,

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**Kathleen Jordan**  
**Head of Service**  
**Services for Older People, Access and Integration**