



27th February 2025

Deputy Pádraig Rice,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Rice,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Questions, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ: 5209/25

To ask the Minister for Health to provide the current split of home care service provision between direct and indirect delivery, by hours and percentage. -Pádraig Rice

PQ: 5210/25

To ask the Minister for Health the current hourly direct and indirect cost of delivery of home care; and the total cost of direct and indirect delivery of home care in each year from 2020 to 2024. -Pádraig Rice

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.

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. The home support service is managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each 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.

As of 31st December 2024, latest available preliminary data indicates that 23.76m Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 58,546 people, an increase of +5.2% in the number of hours delivered when compared to the same period last year. Of note, growth in home support service delivery saw a 38% (6.6m hrs) increase in delivery when compared to the December 2018 position.

As at year end 2024, reported data shows that 36% of service was delivered directly by the HSE, with the remaining 64% being delivered indirectly via Approved Providers appointed to the Home Support Authorisation Scheme. Please see **Appendix 1** setting out the applicable rates payable under the Home Support Authorisation Scheme.

With regard to your query in relation to Home Support expenditure in the years 2020 to 2024, please see table hereunder; 31st December 2024: Total Home Support expenditure in the region of **€786.6m**

Yours sincerely,

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

Appendix 1: Home Support Expenditure 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

31 st December 2023: Total Home Support expenditure in the region of €673.1m
31 st December 2022: Total Home Support expenditure in the region of €584.2m
31 st December 2021: Total Home Support expenditure in the region of €528.9m
31 st December 2020: Total Home Support expenditure in the region of €441.1m