



14<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

Deputy Paul McAuliffe,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy McAuliffe,

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: 41030/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the average hours of home support delivered to older people in 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Paul McAuliffe**

Home Support aims to enable people to continue to live in their own homes with confidence, security and dignity. 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 available resources and competing demands for services.

The population is ageing, with the latest population projections indicating a 38% increase in the over 65-years population and 68% increase in the over 85 years population by 2031. The recent ESRI publication of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 '*Projections of national demand and ded capacity for older people's care in Ireland, 2022:2040*' states that the population aged over 65 is projected to grow from 0.78m in 2022 to over 1.3m by 2040. This demographic shift is the primary driver of increased demand for home support services.

Demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, continues to increase due to population growth as outline above and the increasing dependency of the growing numbers of people aged ≥80years, within the over 65 years' cohort. The type of Home Support that is now required to meet the needs of the population is a more person-centered personal care model. 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.

The latest available preliminary data reflects the period to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2025. As of this date, 12.3m Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 59,196 people. *\*Please note data is preliminary in nature and subject to change.*

Yours sincerely,

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