

12th June 2025

Martin Kenny T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ ref 29433/25

To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide a breakdown, by regional health area, of the number and size, in weekly home support hours; her views on disparities in availability across regions, particularly in regional health areas covering Mayo, Galway and Roscommon; her further views in light of the commitments set out in the HSE National Service Plan 2025 (pages 24 and 77); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kenny

I refer to PQ ref 29433/25 uploaded on the PAD System on 29th May, 2025 due for a response on the 22nd June, 2025 regarding representations you have received in respect of the provision of home support services Galway, Mayo and Roscommon. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the current position.

IHA Area – Mayo - Home Support Data 2025

Home Support hours delivered in April	48,458 hours to 1,595 clients
Home Support waiting list as of end of April	245
Target hours set by National Office for April	50,761

IHA Area – Galway/Roscommon - Home Support Data 2025

Home Support hours delivered in April	130,465 to 4,717 clients
Home Support waiting list as of end of April	453
Target hours set by National Office for April	128,461

Home Support services are currently experiencing significant challenges in sourcing carers, both through direct HSE provision and indirect provision via external providers.

In response, Home Support Management have recently engaged with provider organisations to emphasise the urgent need for carer recruitment in order to address the growing waiting list. All providers have been advised to prioritise recruitment efforts.

In parallel, the HSE is actively recruiting carers on an ongoing basis. Most recently, Home Support Management met with the HR Department, which is progressing plans for further recruitment campaigns. These campaigns will be run separately by Integrated Health Areas (IHAs), with one focused on Mayo and another covering Galway/Roscommon.

I trust this response addresses the matter you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

Des Mulligan
Head of Service
Older Peoples Services