



IC/NC/MMcM

Email: [pqmidwest@hse.ie](mailto:pqmidwest@hse.ie)

7<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Minister Niall Collins,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 29584/25: To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being put in place to address the shortage of home support staff in the Limerick area; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Minister Collins,

I refer to your correspondence dated the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Mid West Home Support is committed to supporting older people to live independently at home for as long as possible.

During May 2025 a total of 1,880 clients in the Limerick area received 58,842 hours home support.

As we seek to meet this increase in demand there are challenges associated with recruitment in Limerick City and County, as there are in many parts of the country

General availability of suitably qualified staff and willingness for staff to take on roles that involve working unsocial hours is a challenge.

Private provider capacity to take on cases is limited in many areas. There are times when private providers hand back cases to the HSE as they cannot continue to provide a service due to carers' unplanned leave or due to carers leaving diluting capacity further. The HSE continues to work closely with private providers to maximise the delivery of home support hours.

So far this year this year, 3.5 whole time equivalents (WTE) healthcare attendants have been recruited to priority areas in County Limerick, including Dromcollogher, Adare, Newcastlewest and Askeaton. Recruitment of two healthcare assistants is underway for Cappamore, Doon, and Oola as these areas have been identified as a priority.

In 2025, HSE Mid West Older Persons will continue to advertise and recruit healthcare assistants to these vital roles for home support services across the Mid West including Limerick.

We remain committed to securing the necessary resources to provide high quality care for all clients in the Mid West.



**Ospidéal na hOllscoile Luimneach**  
Bóthar Naomh Neasáin  
Tuar an Daill  
Luimneach  
V94 F858

**University Hospital Limerick**  
St Nessian's Road  
Dooradoyle  
Limerick  
V94 F858

[midwest.hse.ie](http://midwest.hse.ie)

I trust this clarifies the position. Please contact me if you have any further queries.

Kind Regards,

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**IAN CARTER**  
**CEO Mid West Acute and Older People Services**  
**HSE Mid West**