



2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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: 10937/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on home support waiting lists for a carer at the end of February for the years 2019, 2023, 2024, and 2025, in tabular form; and the breakdown by length of wait. -David Cullinane**

**PQ: 10938/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who are receiving less than their full allocation of home support hours at the end of February in the years 2019, 2023, 2024, and 2025. -David Cullinane**

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 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.

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. With regard to your request for data in relation to the length of time waiting, please note that this information is not collated nationally. While this may be available locally, it would take considerable resources to collate it at national levels.

Please see appendices below with regard to requested data.

Yours sincerely,

---

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

**Appendix 1: Details the total number of clients on a national waiting list for Carers at the end of February for years 2019, 2023, 2024 and 2025**

Reporting Period	Description	Total	New	Additional
Feb-25	Waiting on a Carer	4,628	2,124	2,504
Feb-24	Waiting on a Carer	5,557	2,628	2,929
Feb-23	Waiting on a Carer	6,234	3,276	2,958
Feb-19	Waiting on a Carer	1,528	1,033	495

*Please note that there was a data gap for February in one LHO therefore the data quoted is understated.*

**Appendix 2: details the number of clients, waiting on funding at the end of February in the years requested, (2019, 2023, 2024 and 2025).**

Reporting Period	Description	Total	New	Additional
Feb-25	Waiting on a Funding	133	17	116
Feb-24	Waiting on a Funding	0	0	0
Feb-23	Waiting on a Funding	10	4	6
Feb-19	Waiting on a Funding	6,048	4,642	1,406