



**CÚRAM SLÁINTE POBAIL
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE**

CABHÁN DÚN NA NGALL LIATROIM MUINEACHÁN SLIGEACH
CAVAN DONEGAL LEITRIM MONAGHAN SLIGO

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

07/04/2025

Re: PQ 9514/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home care workers that need to be recruited in order to fill all the home care hours allocated to patients in counties Sligo and Leitrim; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kenny

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position in counties Sligo and Leitrim.

Older Persons Services

In order to fill all Home Support hours allocated to service users in Sligo and Leitrim a total of 55 Health Care Assistants (Home Support) would need to be recruited. This figure is based on an employment contract of 28 hours per week.

During 2024 a total of 18 new Health Care Assistants (Home Support) were recruited across Sligo/Leitrim. The Home Support Service is also running a rolling recruitment campaign for HCA's and have met with private providers regarding their recruitment plans to target geographical areas to further build capacity.

Disability Services

Sligo Leitrim Disability Services contract Home Support services through Service Arrangements with a number of provider organisations. In Intellectual and Physical and Sensory (P&S) Disability Services Sligo Leitrim, the home care workers who provide a service to clients are employees of the various service providers and the number of unfilled hours varies on a monthly basis.



The largest number of unfilled hours in Intellectual Disability Services per month is 87 hours. In P&S Disability Services Sligo Leitrim, the largest number of unfilled hours per month is 309.5. Scheduling conflicts in relation to times at which hours are required to be provided, or the requirement to travel between sites at which hours are provided can affect the WTE required. Vacancies in relation to these hours are not in the HSE and the recruitment to vacancies are a matter for the individual provider organisation.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Martin Collum
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