



Ceannasaí Seirbhisí Duine
Níos Sine,
ECSP Lár Tíre An Lú An
Mhí,
Feidhmeannacht na
Seirbhíse Sláinte,
ECSP Lár Tíre An Lú An Mhí
Oifig Ceantair,
Ionad Sláinte,
An Mhuileann gCearr,
Co. na hIarmhí
Tel No: (044) 9395068

Head of Older Persons
Services
Midlands Louth Meath CHO,
Health Service Executive,
Midlands Louth Meath CHO
Area Office,
Health Centre,
Mullingar,
Co. Westmeath.
Tel No: (044) 9395068

12th May, 2025

Deputy Joanna Byrne T.D.,
Dail Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

RE: PQ ref 23050/25 - To ask the Minister for Health if care rationing of new home care packages took place in the CHO 8 area in 2024; if so the reason for this rationing or non-allocation of new home care packages; and if this is not currently taking place within this CHO area.

Dear Deputy Byrne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation. I have examined the matter and outline the position below.

The Home Support Service is a discretionary service provided by the Health Service Executive (HSE) under Section 61 of the Health Act, 1970. In determining the level of support required and to be provided, the HSE takes in account the individuals will and preference, the outcome of a comprehensive Care Needs Assessment, the presence of family and other support systems, and the availability of resources.

All Home Support services operate within a defined, pre-allocated budget which is closely monitored to ensure compliance with budgetary limits and to promote efficiency and accountability within the service. Each service is required to deliver Home Support service within these financial parameters. Accordingly, resource allocation is managed to ensure equitable access and to maximise service provision across the regions.

Notwithstanding these limitations, CHO Midlands Louth Meath Home Support services exceeded both their allocated budget and targeted service delivery (hours and clients) levels in 2024. This is reflective of the sustained demand for Home Support services and CHO Midlands Louth Meath continued commitment to meeting

the needs of person/s requiring Home Support to the greatest extent possible. As a result, Home Support service had to restrict services and prioritize the allocation of resource in line with the assessed needs of applicants.

CHO Midlands Louth Meath is projected to exceed the 2025 allocated budget. All Home Support service requests and waiting lists are being reviewed daily and once resources become available, services will be prioritised accordingly in line with the Older Person Services, Home Support model of care.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Gonoud

A/Head of Service, Older Persons Services
Midlands Louth Meath CHO