

Oifig an Stiúrthora Náisunta Cúnta, Seirbhisí do Dhaoine Scothaosta – Rochtain & Comhtháthú

Aonad 14, Tigh an Mhilliun, Príomhstráid, Tullach Mhór, Co Uíbh Fhailí, R35 Y7P2 Office of the Asst National Director Services for the Older Person, Access & Integration

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29th May 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 were submitted to this Department for response.

PQ: 28729/25

To ask the Minister for Health the cost of 1 million additional home care hours. -David Cullinane.

PQ: 28731/25

To ask the Minister for Health the cost of 10,000 dementia-specific home care hours. -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 \geq 80years, within the over 65 years' cohort. The home support service is managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each 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.

With regard to your query in relation to the estimated cost of providing 1,000,000 additional home support hours, please note that the cost for same annualy would be in the region of \in 33.5m.

With regard to your query in relation to the cost of providing 10,000 additional home support hours to those living with dementia, please note that the cost for same annualy would be in the region of €335k.

Yours sincerely,

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