



15th October, 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 Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ: 52621/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on home support waiting lists for a carer at the end of the first nine months of each year 2023 to 2025, by length of wait, in tabular form; and the number of persons who are receiving less than their full allocation of home support hours. -David Cullinane

Home Support aims to enable people to continue to live in their own homes with confidence, security and dignity. 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 available resources and competing demands for the service.

Demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, continues to increase due to population growth as outline above and the increasing dependency of the growing numbers of people aged ≥80years, within the over 65 years' cohort. The type of Home Support that is now required to meet the needs of the population is a more person-centered personal care model. 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 Service User's assessed needs.

The latest available preliminary data reflects the period to 31st August 2025. As of this date, there were no people waiting on funding to be allocated. As of the same date, the total number of people assessed and waiting for a carer to be assigned stood at 5,311, of which 2,252 were new Service Users and 3,059 were existing Service Users already in receipt of Home Support, but waiting on additional service to commence. With regard to your request for "length of wait", please note that this data is not currently collated nationally.

Please see Appendix 1 which sets out the waiting list for Carers as at 30th September for the years 2023 and 2024, and 31st August 2025. Please note data relating to 2025 is preliminary and subject to change. Data in relation to September 2025 is not yet available.

Yours sincerely,

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

Appendix 1: Details the number of Service Users waiting on carers in the years requested 2023, 2024 and 2025 by Health Region. *Note: data is point in time.*

Waiting on Carers (New & Additional)	Sep-23		
	Total	New	Additional
National Total	6,160	3,256	2,904
HSE Dublin North East	932	427	505
HSE Dublin Midlands	870	446	424
HSE Dublin South East	1,632	1,017	615
HSE South West	1,159	345	814
HSE Mid West	955	857	98
HSE West and North West	612	164	448

Waiting on Carers (New & Additional)	Sep-24		
	Total	New	Additional
National Total	5,257	2,300	2,957
HSE Dublin North East	471	123	348
HSE Dublin Midlands	515	360	155
HSE Dublin South East	971	293	678
HSE South West	1,100	657	443
HSE Mid West	782	217	565
HSE West and North West	1,418	650	768

Waiting on Carers (New & Additional)	Aug-25		
	Total	New	Additional
National Total	5,311	2,252	3,059
HSE Dublin North East	1,009	433	576
HSE Dublin Midlands	330	118	212
HSE Dublin South East	885	290	595
HSE South West	1,045	607	438
HSE Mid West	820	202	618
HSE West and North West	1,222	602	620