



23rd October 2025

Deputy Peadar Toibin,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Toibin,

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: 55153/25

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of homecare hours delivered by the State to date in 2025; the number of persons in receipt of such care; the way in which this compares to the targets for volume of services which is ordinarily set out in the HSE National Service Plan; the corresponding figures for 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Peadar Tóibín

PQ: 55220/25

To ask the Minister for Health the average amount paid to homecare agencies by the HSE for one hour of care to a patient. -Peadar Tóibín

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, with 24m hours of Home Support set allocated for 2025. 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 services.

Demand for Home Support, and its importance as an alternative service to long stay care, 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 recent ESRI publication of 30th June 2025 '*Projections of national demand and ded capacity for older people's care in Ireland, 2022:2040*' states that the population aged over 65 is projected to grow from 0.78m in 2022 to over 1.3m by 2040. This demographic shift is the primary driver of increased demand for home support services.

The latest available preliminary data reflects the period to 30th September 2025. As of this date, 18.88m Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 60,034. For the same period in 2024, 17.58m Home Support hours were delivered nationally to 58,114 people. The above figures represent +5.2% variance in respect of the September 2025 YTD target and +7.4% variance in respect of the same period last year (SPLY)). **Please note the September 2025 data is preliminary in nature and subject to change.*

In relation to your query regarding the rates paid to Approved Home Support Providers appointed to the Home Support Authorisation Scheme, the rate payable per hour for core services, Monday to Saturday is €32.73, effective from 1st September 2025.

Yours sincerely,

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