



**CÚRAM SLÁINTE POBAIL
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE**

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

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25th September, 2025

Deputy Pearse Doherty
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 49937/25

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of people awaiting a home help package in Donegal, by area and by length of time, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Doherty,

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 table below outlines the number of people awaiting a home support service in Donegal, by area and length of time.

Network Area	No. of clients awaiting service	0 - 20 weeks waiting	21 - 40 weeks waiting	40+ weeks waiting
East Network	55	39	6	10
Inishowen Network	35	30	5	0
North Network	70	59	3	8
South West Network	162	82	35	45
Total no. waiting	322			

In addition to healthcare assistants (HCAs) employed by the HSE, the HSE Donegal Home Support Service has procured private providers to supplement the HSE homecare service in Co. Donegal.

Management in the HSE Home Support Service have met with the existing and new private providers on multiple occasions to ascertain capacity to deliver services and



enquire what their strategic plan is in relation to supporting waiting lists in the community and acute hospitals. Whilst capacity has improved, recruitment continues to be a challenge.

The demand for home support continues to increase in Co. Donegal with the level of individual need becoming more complex requiring on occasions the attendance of two HCAs. There are multiple recruitment campaigns being run across the county by all providers, with some companies having a designated recruiter which has resulted in increased capacity. While recruitment of HCAs continues to be a challenge for Home Support Services, it remains a service priority.

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

Acting General Manager
On behalf of Martin Collum,
Services for Older Persons,
Community Healthcare, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Cavan & Sligo,
Breffni Care Centre,
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