



28th March 2024

Alan Dillon TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ ref 9289/24 – To ask the Minister for Health to provide an outline of the treatment available for dementia patients in County Mayo, including investments in services and strategic plans to improve these services further; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Dillon

I refer to PQ ref 9289/24 uploaded on the PAD System on the 22nd February, 2024 due for a response on the 11th March, 2024 regarding representation you have made to the Ministers Office in respect of dementia patients in Co. Mayo, including investments in services and strategic plans to improve these services further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the current position in Community Healthcare West.

In terms of post diagnostic support for People Living with Dementia (PLWD) in Mayo the following enhanced dementia supports are funded by the way of Service Level Agreements between Section 39 agencies (namely Western Alzheimer's and Alzheimer's Society of Ireland) and Older Person's Services of the HSE.

- In Home Respite care provides carers a temporary rest from care giving, while the person living with dementia continues to receive care in their home and community. Total hours funded in home respite in Co. Mayo at present is 11,868 hours per annum.
- Castlebar Day Centre: Dementia Specific Day Service which offers an opportunity for meaningful and recreational activity for people living with dementia for a number of hours each week. Funded for three days per week.
- Ballindine Respite Centre: 12 x Short stay residential respite centre for people with dementia.

The following services are also funded by the HSE in Co. Mayo through the National Dementia Office:

- Day Care at Home Service: Day Care at home is a way of delivering a day care experience to clients in their home, while also allowing their family carer to have a break. It is based on providing social activity based care with minimum personal care. Total hours funded in Day Care at Home in Co. Mayo at present is 3,162 hours per annum.

- Memory Technology Resource Room: One to One consultative service provided by an occupational therapist to assess for and advise about the technologies that are available to help people with dementia and their families.
- Dementia Advisor Service: One to one service for people with dementia and their families who are finding the system hard to navigate and in need of some emotional support and practical guidance.

The following three services are also available to people with dementia in County Mayo via the Section 39 agencies often funded partially or in whole by the HSE:

1. Claremorris Dance Memory Club
2. Westport Dance Memory Club
3. Access to a Dementia Nurse Specialist.

I trust this response addresses the matter you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely



Gerard McCormack
General Manager
Older Peoples Services
Community Healthcare West