



23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.

Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Questions, which was submitted to this Department for response.

**PQ 10759/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for homecare packages, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and the number of persons experiencing delayed discharge from hospital due to a delay in accessing homecare.**

**PQ: 16963/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for homecare packages in each month in 2023 and to date in 2024, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form. -Róisín Shortall**

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. The volume and type of service provided to each client is based on individually assessed care needs and will vary dependent on the needs identified and the resources available to meet those needs.

Demand for home support 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. In the context of increasing demand, priority is given to those being discharged from acute hospitals who are in a position to return home with supports and to those in the community with acute needs. Funding approval is expedited across the system to ensure minimum waiting times

Available waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home Support as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Please see Appendix 1 which details the number of clients assessed and waiting for Home Support Services at by CHO in 2024. As of this date the total number of people assessed and waiting for a carer to be assigned stood at 5,708. Of the 5,708 waiting on a carer to be assigned, 2,716 are new clients and 2,992 are existing clients waiting on additional service.

With regard to delayed discharges, available data indicates that on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 411 people were recorded as a delayed discharge. Of the 411, 53 were categorised as Type A Destination Home, with 38 of these people waiting for a carer to be assigned.

Available waiting list data reflects those that have been assessed and waiting for the provision of Home Support.

Please see

- **Appendix 1.** Details the number of clients assessed and on a waiting list for home support for each month in 2023, by CHO.
- **Appendix 2.** Details the number of clients assessed and on a waiting list for home support, in each month in 2024, by CHO.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

---

**Kathleen Jordan**  
**Head of Service – Home Support**  
**Services for Older People - Community Operations**

**Appendix 1. Home Support Waiting List - Carers (New & Additional) – details the number of clients assessed and on a waiting list as at last day of each respective period in 2023.**

**Carers - Total [New & Additional]**

CHO	Description	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
<b>National Total</b>		<b>6,362</b>	<b>6,234</b>	<b>6,432</b>	<b>6,166</b>	<b>6,198</b>	<b>6,020</b>	<b>6,061</b>	<b>5,986</b>	<b>6,160</b>	<b>6,127</b>	<b>5,689</b>	<b>5,863</b>
<b>CHO1</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	728	744	673	661	668	650	663	654	648	593	603	632
<b>CHO2</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	531	561	599	581	687	659	605	586	617	755	823	821
<b>CHO3</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	652	633	677	590	642	550	663	666	870	864	773	761
<b>CHO4</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	1,499	1,565	1,575	1,591	1,565	1,591	1,678	1,648	1,632	1,560	1,421	1,400
<b>CHO5</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	983	964	988	1,003	974	957	917	974	920	843	825	877
<b>CHO6</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	416	328	401	339	245	262	278	237	239	200	181	235
<b>CHO7</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	732	683	628	538	587	531	494	468	453	519	366	406
<b>CHO8</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	725	653	787	768	749	738	676	721	756	782	683	712
<b>CHO9</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	96	103	104	95	81	82	87	32	25	11	14	19

**Appendix 2. Home Support Waiting List - Carers (New & Additional) – details the number of clients assessed and on a waiting list as at last day of each respective period to March 2024.**

CHO	Description	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
<b>National Total</b>		<b>5,532</b>	<b>5,557</b>	<b>5,708</b>
<b>CHO1</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	617	652	692
<b>CHO2</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	841	909	935
<b>CHO3</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	772	715	794
<b>CHO4</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	1,196	1,210	1,302
<b>CHO5</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	822	901	869
<b>CHO6</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	295	263	252
<b>CHO7</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	422	374	311
<b>CHO8</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	558	527	546
<b>CHO9</b>	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	9	6	7