



2nd October 2024.

Deputy Patricia Ryan,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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 36977/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of days the person who is currently waiting longest for a new home care package to commence has been on the waiting list for; the number of days the person who is currently waiting longest for additional hours has been on the waiting list for, in each CHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Patricia Ryan

PQ 36978/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of home support hours approved for clients but not delivered (i.e., wait listed), in each month of 2023 and to date in 2024, broken down by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Patricia Ryan

PQ 36979/24

To ask the Minister for Health the numbers on the HSE home support waiting lists represented as a percentage of the home support hours delivered, in each CHO and LHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Patricia Ryan

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.

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. In relation to your request regarding the length of time of those on the waiting list, this is not currently collated nationally.

Please note 2024 data quoted is preliminary and may be subject to change. The latest preliminary data available reflects the period to end of August 2024. As of this date, 4,592 people were waiting for a carer to be assigned nationally. Of those, 2,038 were waiting on a new home support service, while 2,554 were already in receipt of a service but waiting on a carer to deliver additional hours. As of same date, the number of people assessed for Home Support and waiting on funding approval was 0, and has remained at this level since June 2023.

With regard to your request the number of days the person who is currently waiting longest for a new home care package to commence has been on the waiting list for; the number of days the person who is currently waiting longest for additional hours has been on the waiting list for, in each CHO (PQ33697/24) and your request for the numbers on the HSE home support waiting lists represented as a percentage of the home support hours delivered (PQ 36979/24), please note that this data is not currently collated nationally.

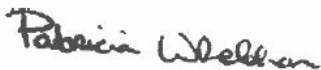
With regard to PQ 36978/24, Please see:

- **Appendix 1** - Details the number of Home Support hours delivered in each month of 2023
- **Appendix 2** - Details the number of Home Support hours delivered in each month of 2024 and at YTD 31st August 2024, by CHO.

Please find attached data as requested. You will note the activity is provided at CHO level. The HSE is currently transitioning to the new Regional Health Areas (RHAs) structure in line with Sláintecare. Pending finalisation of the structures and the associated data reporting pathways, activity is provided at CHO level.

Data return rate at 31st August 2024 YTD was 96.9%.

Yours sincerely,



Patricia Whelehan
Assistant National Director
Services for Older People, Access and Integration

Appendix 1

The number of people approved with funding for Home Support, but waiting on a carer to be assigned in each month of 2023, by CHO.

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

Appendix 2

The number of people approved with funding for Home Support, but waiting on a carer to be assigned in each month of 2024, by CHO.

Carers - Total [New & Additional]														
CHO	Description	YTD Reporting	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
National Total		4,592	5,530	5,557	5,708	5,520	4,711	4,654	4,434	4,592	-	-	-	-
CHO1	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	699	616	652	692	659	678	678	652	699	-	-	-	-
CHO2	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	306	841	909	935	906	261	258	323	306	-	-	-	-
CHO3	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	771	772	715	794	763	752	737	713	771	-	-	-	-
CHO4	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	1,107	1,196	1,210	1,302	1,284	1,160	1,183	1,130	1,107	-	-	-	-
CHO5	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	726	822	901	869	876	826	801	742	726	-	-	-	-
CHO6	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	271	294	263	252	239	285	235	213	271	-	-	-	-
CHO7	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	274	422	374	311	280	288	278	194	274	-	-	-	-
CHO8	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	438	558	527	546	505	461	482	467	438	-	-	-	-
CHO9	Waiting on Carers - New & Additional	-	9	6	7	8	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-