



5th February 2025.

Deputy Cian O'Callaghan,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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

PQ: 1922/25

To ask the Minister for Health the current hourly direct cost and indirect cost of delivery home care; and the total cost of direct and indirect delivery of home care in each of the years from 2020 to 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Cian O'Callaghan

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. The home support service is managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each Community Healthcare Organisation/Health Region to ensure that this key service is available at the required times, in a flexible way and at the appropriate standard to support clients' assessed needs.

The latest preliminary activity available reflects the period to end of December 2024 YTD. As of this date, 23.76m hours were delivered to 58,546 people, an increase of +5.2% in the number of hours delivered when compared to the same period last year. The average cost per hour of providing Home Support Services at December YTD is €33.10. The percentage split of service provision was 36% (direct), with 64% (indirect).

With regard to your query in relation to Home Support expenditure in the years 2020 to 2024, please note the following;

31 st December 2024: Total Home Support expenditure (direct and indirect) in the region of	€786.6m.
31 st December 2023: Total Home Support expenditure (direct and indirect) in the region of	€673.1m.
31 st December 2022: Total Home Support expenditure (direct and indirect) in the region of	€584.2m.
31 st December 2021: Total Home Support expenditure (direct and indirect) in the region of	€528.9m.
31 st December 2020: Total Home Support expenditure (direct and indirect) in the region of	€441.1m.

Yours sincerely,

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