



2025 Home Care Policy Agenda

New Home Support Regulatory Framework:

- **Status:** Severely delayed – Bill due this Autumn.
- To license & inspect home care providers against Ministerial regulations & HIQA standards.

Statutory Home Support Scheme:

- **Status:** Severely delayed – Initially due in 2021.
- Includes a legal entitlement to home care; new funding model; HSE service reform; regulatory framework.

Commission on Care for Older People:

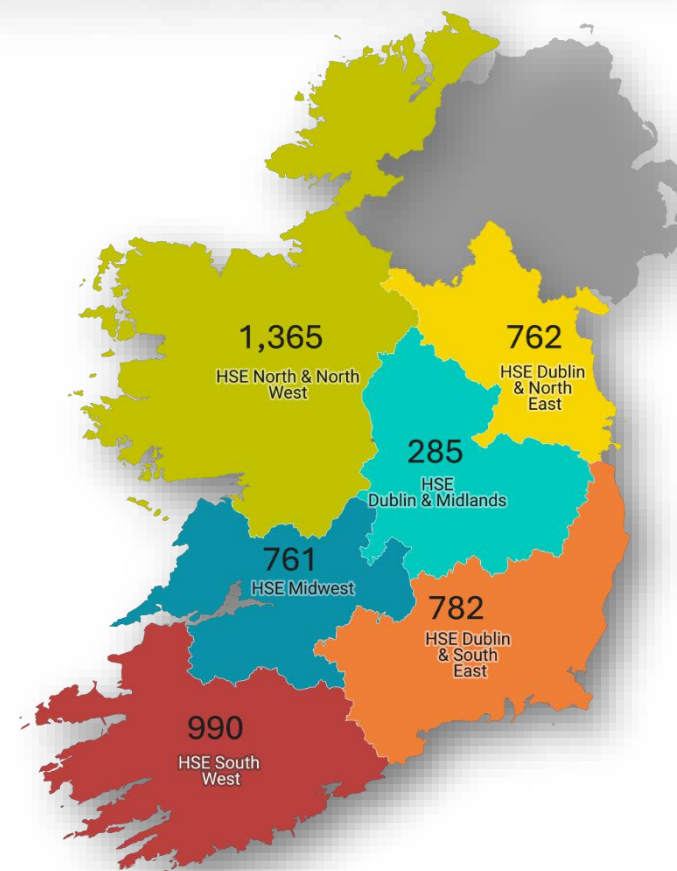
- **Status:** Delayed since early 2025.
- Module 2 on future options due in start this year.

Disability Home Care Reform:

- **Status:** Delayed since early 2025.
- Scheme will bridge the funding gap between older persons and disability home support and expand service capacity.

HSE Home Support Waiting List by Region - June 2025

Counties like Cork, Donegal & Galway are facing high waiting lists



June 2025

Map: Home & Community Care Ireland • Source: HSE • Created with Datawrapper



Key Issues Impacting the Home Care Sector in 2025

Issue	Context	Status	Concerns
Home Care Worker Recruitment & Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Shortage of carers is leading to waiting lists & unmet need.CDSWAG made 16 recommendations across pay, benefits, training, career development and barriers to employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CDSWAG remains operational but its future is uncertain – a more comprehensive workforce strategy is needed.HCCI have launched “A New Deal for Carers” campaign to improve T&Cs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Capacity is improving but there remains a shortage of carers in many areas – as seen with high waiting lists.Workforce reforms have been slow and ad hoc to date.
Waiting Lists & Access to Home Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strong demand for home care is leading to persistently high waiting lists in many areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4,883 older people are on a waiting list.Some older people are waiting longer than a year for care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Currently, there is no action plan or national policy to tackle waiting lists.No waiting lists are maintained for Disabilities.
Caring for an Ageing Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2025 ESRI report projects 91% increase in home care demand by 2040 – equalling 1 million hours per year.By 2040, the no. of over 85s will double & no. of over 65s will double by 2050.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Without a home care strategy, investment has been ad-hoc.The (delayed) Statutory Home Support Scheme & Commission on Care are key to securing care for an ageing population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lack of investment and/or delays to policy reforms will leave the sector unprepared.Nursing homes have a higher budget and remain easier to access for many who could remain living in their homes with the right supports.



Home Care News

HCCI/BDO Report – [Economic Impact of Home Care](#)

- Home care contributes approx. €2 billion to the economy each year.
- For every €1m invested, €1.9m is returned to the economy.

ESRI Report – [Projections of National Demand for Older](#)

[People's Care in Ireland 2022 - 2040](#)

- Projects 57% to 91% increase in home support hours, requiring one million extra hours per year.
- Home care projections are higher than nursing homes or acute beds.

HSE Report – [interRAI Home Support Data Report](#)

- Acquired via HCCI Freedom of Information request.
- Examination of care needs and current service levels to inform care bands as part of the Statutory Home Support Scheme.

- 14% of clients in the study are allocated zero home support hours amongst other revealing insights.

Paediatric Home Support – Rate Review

- The HSE have proposed a 5% cut in the rate for Paediatric Home Support as part of a rate review.
- HCCI is concerned this will impact providers ability to attract nurses and address unmet need.
- Paediatric Home Support is a nurse led service for children with complex needs.

New HCCI Members

- HCCI now have 41 members as new providers (including non-profits) have joined.

AV Room Briefing – 3pm Wednesday 15th October 2025

- Join HCCI for a conversation about the future of home care.



Home Care Statistics (Older People)

Key Statistics (June 2025)

- Waiting List: 4,945
- Hours Delivered: 12.3m
- No. of Clients: 59,196

Waiting Times for HSE Home Support 2025

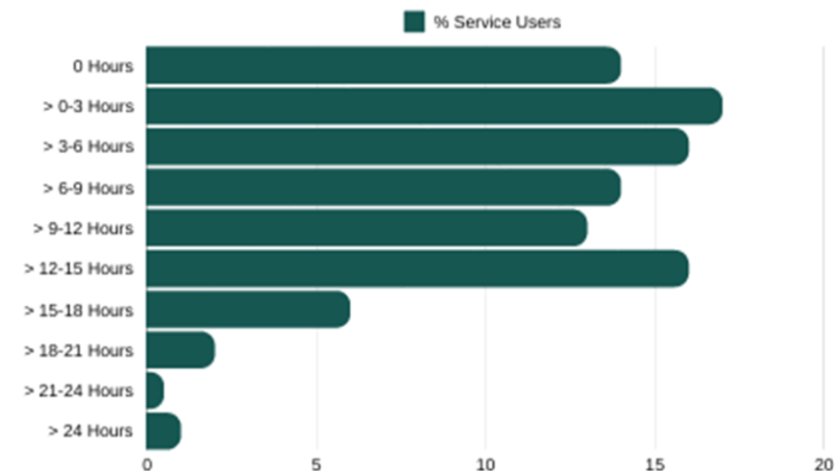
A significant number of people in Cork and Donegal are waiting at least 6 months for home support

Region	0-6 months	6-12 months	>12 months
Cork/Kerry	51%	26%	23%
Donegal	65%	25%	10%

Table: Home & Community Care Ireland • Source: HSE • Created with Datawrapper

Request to Representatives: *This is a new statistic & HCCI does not have a complete picture of national waiting times – we encourage you to ask PQs for your constituency.*

Home Support Hours Breakdown



Nearly half of home care users are receiving less than 1 hour a day

Taken from the HSE's interRAI Home Support Data Report