



## An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health

# *Draft Regulations for Providers of Home Support Services: Public Consultation Survey*

### **Public Consultation on Draft Regulations for Home Support**

The Department of Health has launched a public consultation on draft regulations for providers of home support services. These regulations set out the minimum requirements that public, private, and not-for-profit providers of home support services will be required to meet to obtain a license to operate.

#### **How to make a response?**

You can make your views known by completing this survey. This survey consists of 3 sections, with 14 questions in total. Section 1 asks you to provide information about yourself. Section 2 asks you to provide general feedback on the draft regulations. Finally, Section 3 invites you to provide focused feedback on the different parts of the draft regulations.

Only Section 1 of the survey is mandatory. This allows you to give as much or as little feedback as you would like. Where the survey gives you the opportunity to provide written feedback, please be aware that this is limited to around 200 words per answer.

The printable survey can be emailed to [HSRConsultation@health.gov.ie](mailto:HSRConsultation@health.gov.ie) or posted to Home Support Reform, Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14.

#### **What is the Deadline for a response?**

This deadline and survey will close on 28th July at 5:00pm.

#### **What we will do with your response?**

A report on the findings of the public consultation will be prepared by the Institute of Public Health for the Department of Health. Your views will contribute to the further development of legislation governing home support.

#### **Privacy Notice**

By completing this survey, you are agreeing to take part in the public consultation.

Personal, confidential or commercially sensitive information should not be included in your submission. If personal identifiable details are included they will be deleted. All submissions and survey answers are subject to release under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 and are also subject to Data Protection legislation.

The Department's Privacy Policy can be viewed here <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/2f7457-department-of-healths-privacy-policy/>

#### **Queries**

Should you have any queries in relation to this survey, please contact [HSRConsultation@health.gov.ie](mailto:HSRConsultation@health.gov.ie)



## Section 1. About you

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### Question 1:

Are you providing feedback as:

- an individual
- on behalf of an organisation

### Question 2a:

If answer is “an individual”

Which of the following best represents your views?

- a person who has used or is currently using home support services
- a family member of a person using home support services
- a home support worker
- a healthcare professional involved in hospital or community services
- a member of the public
- other (Please specify)

If selected 'other' above, please give details here:

### Question 2b:

If answer is “on behalf of an organisation”, please give the name of the organisation.

Name of organisation-----:

Is the organisation?

- a home support provider or network
- a trade union or worker representative body
- a representative or advocacy body for disability or older people
- a public sector body or regulator
- a healthcare or medical organisation or body
- other (please specify)

If selected 'other' above, please give details here:



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## Section 2. Overall feedback

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**Question 3:**

Do you agree that the home support regulations should cover the following types of activity for those who need assistance due to illness, frailty or disability? Place an X in the appropriate box.

	Yes	No	Unsure
Physical assistance with mobility, washing, mealtimes and using the bathroom, or reminders/ supervision of these activities where necessary			
Reminding or supervising someone to take medication			
Helping someone to do everyday activities such as shopping, cooking and cleaning			
Exercise and social engagement inside and outside the home			
Care for the emotional welfare of the service user, such as listening and providing encouragement			
Personal assistance (that is a package of assistance provided to support independence, health and social engagement)			

Please comment (optional) - no more than 200 words



**Question 4:**

Do you agree with the following types of service are **NOT** covered by these home support regulations?

Place an X in the appropriate box.

	Yes	No	Unsure
Services for people aged less than 18			
Home support by a family member or friend			
Home support services that are unpaid			
A paid employment relationship between an individual home support worker and one service-user			
Services provided only by registered healthcare professionals (such as nurses or physiotherapists)			

Please comment (optional) - no more than 200 words



**Question 5:**

These regulations will require all home support workers to have minimum educational qualifications, or to get these within a set timeframe.

Do you agree with this?

Yes

No

Unsure

Please comment (optional) - no more than 200 words



**Question 6:**

Do you believe the overall impact of the proposed regulations will be:

- Positive
- Negative
- Unsure

Please comment (optional) - no more than 200 words



**Question 7:**

What do you consider will be the benefits of introducing these regulations for home support providers?

Please tick any or all that apply:

- Better quality and consistency of service
- greater protection for service users
- guidance for all involved in home support services
- other

Please give reasons for your answer (optional): – no more than 200 words



**Question 8:**

Do you have any concerns about the introduction of these regulations?

Yes

No

Unsure

Please comment (optional) – no more than 200 words





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## Section 3. Feedback by section on the Draft Regulations for Home Support Providers

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The next section seeks feedback on specific sections of the draft regulations. The full regulations can be found [here](#). A Plain English summary of these sections can be found [here](#).

### Service Delivery

**Question 9:**

Do you agree with the requirements set out in sections 3 - 10 under Service Delivery?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Section 3. Statement of Purpose			
Section 4. Principles of Service Delivery			
Section 5. Contract between Service-User and Home Support Provider			
Section 6. Needs Assessment and Personal Support Plan			
Section 7. Management of Records			
Section 8. Service Provision			
Section 9. Medication Management Support			
Section 10. Safeguarding and Protection of the Service-User			

Please comment or indicate any changes you feel are needed (optional) - no more than 200 words



## Staffing

### Question 10:

Do you agree with the requirements set out in sections 11 – 13 under Staffing?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Section 11. Staffing			
Section 12. Qualifications, Training and Development			
Section 13. Supervision of Staff			

Please comment or indicate any changes you feel are needed (optional) – no more than 200 words



## Corporate Governance

### Question 11:

Do you agree with the requirements set out in sections 14 -16 under Corporate Governance?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Section 14. Management of the Service			
Section 15. Reporting Data to Regulator			
Section 16. Financial Procedures			

Please comment or indicate any changes you feel are needed (optional) - – no more than 200 words



## Corporate Oversight

### Question 12:

Do you agree with the requirements set out in sections 17– 21 under Corporate Oversight?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Section 17. Policies and Procedures.			
Section 18. Complaints Procedure			
Section 19. Infection Prevention and Control			
Section 20. Health and Safety			
Section 21. Governance, Management and Quality Assurance			

Please comment or indicate any changes you feel are needed (optional) – no more than 200 words



## Schedules

### Question 13:

Do you agree with the requirements set out in Schedules 1 - 6 providing more detail about what is required in specific areas?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Schedule 1. Statement of Purpose			
Schedule 2. Policies and Procedures			
Schedule 3. Induction Training			
Schedule 4. Records			
Schedule 5. Supporting Person			
Schedule 6. Specified Person			

Please comment or indicate any changes you feel are needed (optional) – no more than 200 words



## Overall comment (Final question)

### Question 14:

Please use the box below to provide any additional comments you have about these draft regulations (optional) - max 200 words