

MAJOR HOME HELP INCREASES

In the last two years, we have also added over 2 million Home Help hours.

Home Help is a basic, and essential, service. It can mean helping an older person with household tasks.

Home Help workers also provide an unsung social service, supporting many older people with company and contact.

Increased Home Help hours don't get much attention in public debate, but they make a real difference in people's lives.

More Home Help is part of the real improvements in Health in Ireland.

5 times more home care packages

This year, there will be 5,000 home care packages to provide support for older people at home. That's five times more than when Mary Harney started in Health.

Home care packages are services like speech therapy, chiropody and physiotherapy tailored to each person's needs.

They are aimed at helping older people stay living at home rather than move into a nursing home when they really don't have to.

They are additional to the Home Help service.

This is an innovation in bringing care into the community. Home care packages started on a pilot basis in Dublin about four years ago. Now Mary Harney has brought this idea to the rest of the country.

In the future, nursing home care will be for older people with clear, high dependency needs. Most services should be at home.



"I believe older people deserve our highest respect."

"Services for older people are a top priority for me."

"We have to innovate and change to do more to support older people living at home."

"Home care packages are the future."

Mary Harney

For the future: "Continue the unprecedented expansion of community care for older people that we have put in place since 2005, with additional home care packages, home help hours and palliative care." Progressive Democrats Manifesto

Let's finish the job