

Referrer Information CHO₄ - South Lee

HSE/Cork CIL Assisted Living Services PA Supports

Cork Centre for Independent Living [Cork CIL] is a not-for-profit organisation based in Lawley House Monahan Rd Cork. Cork CIL is a **Section 39 Funded Agency** and has a Service Level Agreement [ALS] with the HSE to **provide Assisted Living Service [ALS] Personal Assistant [PA]** support to people with a primary physical or sensory disability in the South Lee area of CHO 4. (excluding Macroom & environs)

HSE Funded Supports

Cork CIL's Service Level Agreement [SLA] with the Health Service Executive [HSE] accounts for over 98 % of all services activity. The core funding from the HSE has not changed since 2011. It is a fixed funding resource that Cork CIL must work within.

Cork CIL provides a range of Personal Assistant [PA] supports for people with primary physical/sensory disability on behalf of the HSE. These are contracted services and are captured in an annual SLA. As an HSE service there are service criteria, and this is a guide for those who may wish to refer for this service.

Services Provided

The type of PA supports provided by Cork CIL are very varied. They range from personal care and therapy supports to social inclusion supports. This depends on how the services are contracted Service User / Leaders have allocated PA hours ranging from 2 hours a week to over 70 hours per week.

HSE PA Services are contracted in 2-two ways:

1. **Assisted Living Services** - Services for most Service Users, is provided for from core funding. This is managed by the HSE as part of Home Support Services. The types of existing service provision vary. Currently new applications are, in the first instance, being considered for **social inclusion supports**. When Service Users reduces or stops using a PA service e.g. they move out of area, move into residential care setting or pass away, the hours they used then become available for people on the waiting list. These are the applications considered at the Local Prioritisation Committee Meeting (LPC).
2. **PA Support Services for Named Service Users** with hypothecated [dedicated] funding . More recently and for new Service Users requiring a robust service to support them to live independently funding is applied for and identified by the HSE Disability Services on a named Service User basis.

From within an agreed funding level, services are provided to Named Service Users. If this service is no longer needed by the Service User or they move, or Cork CIL cannot provide the supports the funding follows the Service User and moves with them. It does not become available to other applicants.

HSE Assisted Living Services [ALS]

Physical disabilities result from conditions that affect the physical body. People may have lived with a physical condition all of their lives, for example spina bifida or cerebral palsy, or the disability may have developed in adulthood, for example because of a neurological condition such as multiple sclerosis or motor neurone disease. Physical disabilities may also occur as a result of a traumatic event such as a spinal injury, an amputation or a brain injury resulting from an accident or a stroke.

Sensory impairment refers to visual impairments and hearing impairments. People may have been living with sensory impairments all their life, or may have developed sight or hearing loss in their later years as a result of a medical condition or a traumatic event. The term Sensory Impairment represents Blind people and people with a Visual Impairment, Deaf people and people with a Hearing Impairment or People with severe sight and hearing loss combined (dual sensory loss/deafblind).

Assisted Living -Personal Assistant Services (ALS) are varied and individual. ALS supports can range from personal care to social inclusion. Assisted Living PA Services often augment other services or can be stand alone. Working with a PA can help grow confidence, independence and increase choices and opportunities for the Service User. There is a fixed level of funding and so there some limits to what can be provided and there is a waiting list.

ALS supports are part of a continuum of support that also include Home Support Services
The Assisted Living Service is a service that you as a Public Health Nurse [PHN] can assess and make a referral for. Applications are currently being considered for Social Inclusion Supports

Criteria for ALS Services

- ✓ Under 65 years at start of service [realistically this is under 64 years at the time of application.]
- ✓ Living in Cork CHO 4 South Lee [outside this area is on a case-by-case basis in discussion with Home Support / Disability Services Manager]
- ✓ A PRIMARY PHYSICAL / SENSORY DISABILITY

? Chronic Illness

Whilst we appreciate that chronic illness may be disabling it may not constitute a primary physical disability. If you think that your patient may meet the criteria and benefit from a PA support please talk to us. (Contact numbers at the end of the document)

× Intellectual Disability

Many people with ID have associate physical and or sensory disability (and vice versa) If the main service provision to date has been in the ID sector (COPE, B o C etc) the applicant unlikely to be eligible. If you are unsure please talk to us.

× **Mental Health Concerns**

Many people with chronic illness or disability experience mental health challenges from feelings of isolation to significant mental illness. Cork CIL does not have a remit for community psychiatric supports . If this is a concern please refer to m community Mental Health services . If you are unsure please talk to us

× **Sensory Processing and Autism**

Many with SP issues may benefit from support of a skilled PA Unfortunately Cork CIL is not the appropriate provider and you should explore options through HSE Teams

× **Child Care / Supervision of Access Visits**

Cork CIL cannot accept referral for child care or for supervision visits

Type of Referrals

✓ **Social Inclusion Supports**

Applications are currently being considered for **social inclusion supports** [SI].
(starting 1-2 hours a week)

Supports for All ADL

If an applicant is requesting or is assessed as needing activities of daily living [ADL] /personal care supports should in the first instance be referred to the Home Support Service [Home Help], discussed with the ADPHN or Home Support Manager. If a robust individualised package of support is indicated it may be referred by HSE to CCIL

? **Support to Attend Hospital Appointments**

Regularly referrals are made with the request to accompany service users to hospital/clinic/surgery appointments. We are unable to consider these referrals at this time. When Service Users and PA's are matched, the PA's are employed to work at agreed and specific times. They are only paid for the time that they work and often work with several different Service Users so may have limited flexibility/availability. If an appointment is planned at a time that the PA can accompany a Service User, then this is a role for a PA.

? **Transport Service**

Cork CIL staff **do not** routinely carry Service Users in their [PA's car] and a PA service is **not an alternative transport option**. Regularly referrals are made solely for a request of transport regrettably these cannot be considered however the Cork CIL Travel Club may be of interest.

If a PA matched with a Service User chooses to consider taking the Service User they know in their car it will be risk assessed by Cork CIL. If this meet the requirements of the Cork CIL Driving for Work Policy we can authorise this. Services Users will be required to contribute to mileage costs.

✓ **Transport Travel Club**

Cork CIL has a **Travel Club**. Applicants may wish to explore Travel Club membership which is open to anyone in Cork with a physical disability and may be an option for lower cost travel. Contact Cork CIL directly for information.

× **Domestic / Housekeeping Supports**

Cork CIL does not provide a solely domestic/housekeeping service at this time.

RECRUITMENT & AVAILABILITY OF STAFF

In common with all similar organisations we have continually recruiting staff to join our team. The non-availability of suitable staff at times needed by service users can be a challenge .

Cork CI is not an emergency service and will always need time to establish a person-centred service.

Quick Summary

Applications **not currently considered eligible** for the ALS service:

- × People with a primary Intellectual disability and /or whose service supports are from an Intellectual Disability Service provider
- × People whose main supports needs are with mental health difficulties or mental illness.
- × Supports in mainstream pre-school, primary or post primary school [request support from the school principal who can apply to the Dept of Education]
- × Chronic medical conditions e.g. such as epilepsy, IDDM, COPD and heart disease may be disabling however, these may not meet the current service criteria of primary physical / sensory disability
- × Requests primarily for transport
- × Requests to attend hospital appointments
- × Requests for child care or supervising access visits

ALS Application Process

To be referred all new applicants need to contact their PHN who should meet them, assesses their described need and if eligible, apply in partnership with them and with their informed consent.

All completed applications and assessments must then be submitted by PHN to the ADPHN representative on the Local Prioritisation committee. This is currently Caroline Forbes for South Lee.

Local Prioritisation Committee [LPC]

Applications for ALS supports are reviewed at a Local Prioritisation Committee [LPC] meeting. These meetings take place about every 4-8 weeks. They are chaired by the HSE Disability Manager Cork South and includes Cork CIL Manager, an Assistant Director of Public Health Nursing, an HSE administration officer.

If the applications meet the criteria and Cork CIL can in principle provide the supports requested the applicants will be contacted in writing and with their consent to be included in a prioritised waiting list.

If you have made a referral and want to be kept updated on the progress, please include your e-mail in the application form.

A Prioritised Waiting List

A waiting list is in operation for the HSE ALS Service. This is a HSE Wait list that Cork CIL maintains. All those currently on the waiting list are wait listed for Social Inclusion supports and whilst important this is not a 'critical' support.' The waiting list is reviewed by the LPC at each meeting and validated formally every 12-18 months.

A weighting is applied to applicants on the waiting list e.g. applicants who live alone, have no other supports and / or those who have a life limiting condition and are moving into a terminal phase of that condition have a higher greater weighting than those who would benefit from the supports but have access to a variety of supports such as full-time day supports residential care or significant other home-based supports. Once a priority is given then applicants are offered supports, in date order as the **resource becomes available and once Cork CIL is authorised to do so by the HSE.**

Completing the Application

- If possible please type the application Idiosyncratic handwriting and multiple photocopies / scans make some application ineligible. (Cork CIL are exploring if a secure on-line application can be developed for PHN use. We will keep you updated)
- If filling by hand please print details neatly using black or blue biro (red will not photocopy or scan well)
- Complete application in full please e.g. full address Eircode contact numbers that work
- Include all other supports formal and informal received or applied for
- Describe what supports the applicant would like .
- Please include a contact number and email for referring PHN Not a health centre number
- Ensure applicant signs application

Covid -19

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on services. We will assess the individual risk and taking this assessment and ensuring compliance with national restrictions work to maintain services as much as possible. This is under constant review:

All Cork CIL staff have successfully completed additional Covid-19 specific training and have access to and are instructed to use appropriate PPE in line with Cork CIL Covid -19 Practice Guidelines . These are subject to change.

Contact

If you have a query or question please contact Pat Beirne telephone 0867929684 021 432 2651 or pat.beirne@corkcil.ie. We will do our best to help.

Pat Beirne Manager Cork CIL

pat.beirne@corkcil.ie

On behalf LPC

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