



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
T 01 6207304 R: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

6th May 2021,
Deputy Peadar Tóibín
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.

PQ
Number: 18145/21

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase the number of acute mental health beds; and if so, the number. -Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

As the body responsible for implementing most of the recommendations in *Sharing the Vision*, the HSE are in the process of establishing an appropriate structure with managerial, clinical and operational representation to ensure delivery of its actions on an ongoing basis. The purpose of the HSE Implementation Group is to provide strategic advice, leadership, and guidance for developing and implementing evidence-based approaches to priority actions described in *Sharing the Vision*. The policy recommends examining current acute bed provision for those with complex mental health needs as a priority. One of the main priorities identified in the policy is to establish a working group to examine bed capacity in Ireland and consider the nature of mental health service provision for the population. The group is expected to explore international research to develop targeted service development plans that address bed occupancy and provision.

In 2021, additional funding of 5M Euros for COVID emergency bed purchase in Private hospitals is in place, and an extra 6.75 M Euros for ongoing purchase of external beds/long term care. An oversight group has been established to progress this work. To date, HSE Mental Health has undertaken a review of Approved Centres in our 9 CHOS and CMH to identify individuals with a longer-term care need. The oversight group has completed engagements with several service providers, and a tendering process is underway.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Moore

General Manager
HSE Mental Health Operations

Building a Better Health Service

CARE COMPASSION TRUST LEARNING