

Cheann na Seirbhíse, An Príomh-Ospidéal Meabhair-Ghalar, An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Meabhairshláinte Fhóiréinseach

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Deputy Mark Ward Dail Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2.

Date: 7 March 2024

PQ Number: 3410/24

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people in prison who were on the Caseload of the National Forensic Mental Health Service as of early 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

In addition to Clinical and Residential Community Services, National Forensic Mental Health Service including the Central Mental Hospital also provides a Prison In-Reach Programme and Court Liaison Service (PCAM).

Prison In-Reach clinics and Court Liaison Services (PICLS) are provided to persons, who have been admitted to the CMH and returned to the prison under section 18 Criminal Law (Insanity) Act 2006, individuals who are on the waiting list for admission to CMH or diversion to Community Mental Health Teams or anyone with a severe mental illness who requires psychiatric treatment. Services are currently provided in Cloverhill, Mountjoy, Dochas Centre, Wheatfield, Midlands, Castlerea, Arbour Hill, Oberstown, Portlaoise, Shelton Abbey and Cork Prisons The prison in-reach clinics are provided in close cooperation with the Irish Prison Service primary care teams. In addition, the service facilitates diversion from the criminal justice system where possible.



Caseload for NFMHS

The table below provides the statistics as of February 2024 for Prison in Reach Services:

Prison Continuity & Aftercare Management (PCAM) Statistics for all Locations	
Active Patients*	380
Patients seen	339
New Patients	107
Patients Reviewed**	604
Total Discharged	120
*Caseload for all locations	
**Patient Reviewed - patient may be reviewed multiple times	

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Part Berger

Patrick Bergin Head of Service National Forensic Mental Health Service