



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
T 01 6207304 R: Sinead.reynolds@hse.ie
Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: sinead.reynolds@hse.ie

Thursday, 11 July 2019

Deputy Fiona O'Loughlin TD
Dail Eireann, Leinster House,
Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 30617/19: To ask the Minister for Health the average, shortest and longest wait, respectively facing a prisoner awaiting a transfer from the Irish Prison Service to the Central Mental Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Fiona O'Loughlin

Dear Deputy O'Loughlin,

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.

The existing CMH has 103 inpatient beds and operates at 100% bed occupancy. Due to a high demand for the limited number forensic inpatient beds, admissions are systematically triaged according to the level of therapeutic security required and the urgency of clinical need.

A new forensic mental health inpatient facility is currently under construction in Portrane, North County Dublin. The new facility will provide for 170 in-patients including a new Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (FCAMHS) and an Intensive Care Rehabilitation Unit (ICRU). This facility will replace the current Central Mental Hospital facility that is located in Dundrum, Dublin.

The average waiting time for transfer from the Irish Prison Service to the Central Mental Hospital is currently 120.86 days. Currently the shortest wait time is 7 days and the longest is 504 days. Wait times vary according to the level of therapeutic security required and the urgency of clinical need.

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

Yours sincerely,

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Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services

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