



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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10/03/20

**Deputy Peadar Tóibín,
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.**

PQ Number: 3174/20- To ask the Minister for Health the reason the position of national director of mental health is unfilled - 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.

The position of national director of mental health is not unfilled, it has been reconfigured in the context of changes in organisational structures within the HSE. For further context it may be helpful to note that in agreement with the Department of Health in January 2018, changes were introduced to the national organisational structure of the HSE. These changes were designed to support the streamlining and management of performance across the health service with a particular focus on enhancing integration of services. These organisational changes included the appointment of the Chief Operations Officer, the Chief Strategy and Planning Officer and the Chief Clinical Officer.

The new organisational structures also introduced a new senior management structure across HSE Operations and Strategy/Planning functions which included the consolidation and streamlining of previous National Director Roles including mental health. The Offices of National Director Community Services & National Director Community Strategy & Planning now hold accountability for the planning and delivery of community services including Mental Health Services. These changes were intended to provide clear accountability for management and delivery of services within a silo free culture.

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

Yours sincerely,

Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services