



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
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13th November 2020,
Deputy David Cullinane,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ: 31402/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of funded adult psychiatric beds in the public system at the end of each year from 2016 to 2019 and projected for the end of 2020 and 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

Public Mental Health beds include both Acute Approved Centre beds and Community Residences. Each approved centre is registered for a particular number of beds with the MHC (see table below). Occupancy rates vary according to a number of different factors including the acuity of the clinical presentations, the availability of appropriate staffing including nurse specials as required.

It is recommended that approved centres operate at 85%, however there are times when they operate above this. Capacity increases or decreases based on the needs of the population and it is important that units maintain capacity to respond to urgent cases.

The table below provides information on the number of beds in Acute Approved Centres, the Special Rehabilitation Unit and the National Forensic Mental Health Service. In addition there are Community 24 hour and Medium and Low Support Community Residences at CHO level either directly provided by the HSE or through Housing Agencies.

	Q2 - 2020		2019		2018		2017		2016	
	Units	Beds	Units	Beds	Units	Beds	Units	Beds	Units	Beds
CHO 1	3	91	3	91	3	91	3	91	3	89
CHO 2	3	104	3	104	3	104	3	99	3	99
CHO 3	2	76	2	81	2	81	2	89	2	89
CHO 4	5	171	5	171	5	167	5	171	5	171
CHO 5	2	88	2	88	2	88	2	88	2	88
CHO 6	3	79	3	105	3	113	3	116	3	91
CHO 7	3	138	3	138	3	138	3	136	3	142



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CHO 8	4	109	4	112	4	112	4	112	4	112
CHO 9	4	139	4	139	4	130	4	137	4	137
NFMHS	8	93	9	103	8	96	8	92	8	91
SRU	2	27	2	27	2	27	-	-	-	-
National	39	1115	40	1159	39	1147	37	1131	37	1109

The following is a list of 24 hour Community Residences

Q2 2020		
Community Residences	Units	Beds
CHO 1	5	40
CHO 2	15	94
CHO 3	10	123
CHO 4	16	198
CHO 5	23	239
CHO 6	5	77
CHO 7	9	109
CHO 8	13	109
CHO 9	23	226
National	119	1215

The new National Forensic Mental Health facility is currently at an advanced stage of construction. The facility will provide 170 beds in a modern and fit for purpose Hospital in Portrane. This development is the largest single Mental Health Project ever in this country and will provide for an increased number of beds and range of services provided.

In terms of projected bed numbers for the end of 2020, we project that this number will be very similar to the end of Q2 2020 (1115) as this number has been lowered in response to Covid 19 and the health and safety/ IPC demands associated with this. Projection for 2021 is difficult to predict currently as it will depend on progress in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic. In addition there is currently work on-going in relation to the national service plan for 2021 and this may include service developments relating to inpatient beds.

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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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sinead Reynolds'.

Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services