



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.

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25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

PQ 7744/21

To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether a special task force might address the shortcomings in the mental health services with particular reference to the need to provide for those seeking institutional care or specific treatment not currently readily available in Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Durkan

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.

HSE mental health services continue to deliver appropriate responses to individuals presenting for treatment. The HSE continues to work with the private sector to create additional capacity when this is required.

Sharing the Vision National Implementation Monitoring Committee (NIMC) has been established to drive reconfiguration of services and deliver on priority recommendations. The NIMC will work with the HSE to complete an in-patient capacity review as recommended in sharing the vision.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2e46f-sharing-the-vision-a-mental-health-policy-for-everyone/>

Recommendation 46: An Expert Group should be set up to examine Acute Inpatient (Approved Centre) bed provision (including PICUs) and to make recommendations on capacity reflective of emerging models of care, existing bed resources, and future demographic changes, with such recommendations being aligned with Sláintecare.

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

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sinead Reynolds  
General Manager Mental Health Services

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