



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath20.

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April 16<sup>th</sup> 2021,  
Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 16264/21

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the projected timeline for the opening of the new National Forensic Mental Health Services Hospital, Portrane; if recruitment has been successfully completed to ensure a full complement of staff for the new facility; if site identification has commenced for the two new 30-bed regional intensive care units in Cork and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Róisín Shortall**

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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 new National Forensic Mental Health Services (NFMHS) facility in Portrane was handed over to the HSE/Management Team of the Central Mental Hospital on March 22, 2021. The new facility is currently being equipped and a period of testing and training is being conducted, in addition the Facility is in the process of Registration as an Approved Centre with the Mental Health Commission and a Designated Centre with the Department of Justice. The new facility is expected to be operational by Quarter 3, 2021.

The NFMHS has a continuous recruitment campaign and expects to have sufficient staff be in a position to open the new Facility on a Phased basis from Quarter 3 this year.

In relation to the Regional units, *Sharing the Vision* document has recommended that the ICRU in Portrane be fully operational and reviewed to determine the need for and effectiveness of this model of care to inform the development of and possible location of further ICRUs.

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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Thomas O'Brien  
General Manager Mental Health Services