



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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

T 01 6207304 R: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

16th April 2021,
Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 16301/21

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the six private providers that the HSE has engaged with to provide mental health services using surge capacity in private hospitals in relation to correspondence (details supplied); the costs in this regard; the details of same; and the services that have been delivered to date. - Mark Ward

Details Supplied: a letter sent to the Chair of Health Committee "JCH-i-218"

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

As the body responsible for implementing most of the recommendations in Sharing the Vision, the HSE are in the process of establishing an appropriate structure with managerial, clinical and operational representation to ensure delivery of its actions on an ongoing basis. The purpose of the HSE Implementation Group is to provide strategic advice, leadership, and guidance for developing and implementing evidence-based approaches to priority actions described in Sharing the Vision. The policy recommends examining current acute bed provision for those with complex mental health needs as a priority. One of the main priorities identified in the policy is to establish a working group to examine bed capacity in Ireland and consider the nature of mental health service provision for the population. The group is expected to explore international research to develop targeted service development plans that address bed occupancy and provision.

In 2021, additional funding for COVID emergency bed purchase in Private hospitals and further funding for ongoing purchase of external beds/long term care is agreed. An oversight group has been established to progress this work. To date, HSE Mental Health has undertaken a review of Approved Centres in our 9 CHOs and CMH to identify individuals with a longer-term care need. The oversight group has completed engagements with six service providers: including St. Patrick Mental Health Services, St. John of God Hospital, Nua Healthcare, Highfield Health Services, Bloomfield Health Services and Talbot Group. A tendering process is currently underway with these six service providers.

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



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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. O'Brien'.

Thomas O'Brien
General Manager Mental Health Services