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Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív.  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**PQ Number: 60302/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons currently in prison, who have been referred for treatment to the Central Mental Hospital, Portrane; the longest length of time that a person has been on the list waiting for a transfer; the reason for the delay in these transfers; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Éamon Ó Cuív**

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Dear Deputy Ó Cuív ,

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 Central Mental Hospital (CMH) relocated from Dundrum to Portrane in November 2022 increasing the capacity of the hospital. The approved centre is registered for 110 beds. Following the transition to Portrane, admissions have occurred on a weekly basis.

There are currently 15 individuals who are in prison on the waiting list. The majority of individuals have been on the waiting list for less than 4 months. The longest length of time for any individual is 22 months.

CMH have a clinical governance framework for review of the waiting list and admissions to the hospital. Admissions are dependent on vacancies within the admission wards, needs of current patients; prioritisation of waiting list based on need and associated risks to individuals and ability for service to admit an individual safely.

I trust this information is of assistance to you

Yours sincerely,

**Jim Ryan**  
**Assistant National Director - Head of Operations**  
**National Mental Health Services**