



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

Deputy Gino Kenny.
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

07th February 2022

PQ Number: 2629/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if he will conduct a review of service and staffing levels across the mental health service and ensure that extra services and extra permanent posts are sanctioned to ensure that the mental health service can increase its capacity on a permanent basis to deal with the mental health crisis; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Gino Kenny

Dear Deputy Kenny,

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 current position.

The strategic development of services is informed by our national mental health policy Sharing the Vision – A Mental Health Policy for Everyone and Connecting for Life – Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020. Advancing the recommendations of Sharing the Vision sets a particular focus on promotion, prevention and early intervention including improved integration between physical and mental health. The recommendations within Sharing the Vision will provide a new and enhanced focus on the provision of recovery focused integrated mental health services in Ireland in the future, and continue to inform mental health.

I can confirm a growth in staff WTE (whole time equivalent) numbers across all staff groups for the period December 2019 to December 2021 (see table below). An additional 408 WTE are employed in the service over this period, representing an increase of 4.1%. It is expected that further growth will occur in line with developments anticipated in Service Plan 2022.



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

Table 1

Mental Health Service Employment Report: December 2021 (Extract)					
	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Change Dec 2019 to Dec 2021	% change Dec 2019 to Dec 2021
All Staff groups	9,954	10,301	10,362	+408	+4.1%
Medical & Dental	888	932	963	+75	+8.5%
Nursing & Midwifery	4,773	4,935	4,984	+211	+4.4%
Health & Social Care Professionals	1,366	1,444	1,459	+93	+6.8%
Management & Administrative	1,012	1,034	1,027	+15	+1.5%
General Support	711	732	704	-8	-1.1%
Patient & Client Care	1,204	1,225	1,226	+22	+1.8%

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours Sincerely

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