



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

21st January 2022

PQ Number: 62976/21

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the status of the removal of night-time confinement in the National Forensic Mental Health Service Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Mark Ward

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.

The Central Mental Hospital received a derogation from the Mental Health Commission in regard to night time confinement due to the nature of the service and the hospital environment in 2006. This derogation is part of the Rules Governing the Use of Seclusion, which are issued under the Mental Health Act 2001.

The MHC are processing the application for the Central Mental Hospital Portrane as an approved centre. As part of this process, the HSE have engaged with the MHC on the derogation of night time confinement for the new facility. HSE are committed to adhering to the regulations as required under the Act and are working with the MHC to ensure the highest standards of care to the patients in the CMH. This process is ongoing with the Mental Health Commission and is expected to be concluded in the coming weeks.

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