



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
R: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital,
Palmerstown, Dublin 20.
Email: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

05th April 2023

PQ Number: 8331/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of children and adults who have been transferred to inpatient mental health facilities in Britain and the North of Ireland from 2014 to date in 2023, in tabular form; the number and location of such facilities; the amount which has been spent on this care for each facility -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.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to this Parliamentary Question. Contact had to be made with each Community Health Organisation on an individual basis which required a considerable data gathering/searching and collation exercise across the system. In addition contact was made with the HSE Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS). TAS allows for an Irish based public hospital consultant to refer public patients to the public system of another EU/EEA member state for treatment which is not available in Ireland.

The table below provides detail on the number of persons who have been transferred to inpatient mental health facilities in Britain and Northern Ireland from 2014 to date in 2023 including the amount spent and location of treatment. Please note this information has been provided by each CHO area and the TAS and any data reported is correct at point in time.

In line with Section 37 (1) of the FOI act 2014, I have made a decision to deny access to any further detailed breakdown of the data, for reasons of patient confidentiality. Section 37 (1) of the FOI Act 2014 states that “a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request, if in the opinion of the head, access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information [including personal information relating to a deceased individual]”. Given the low numbers reported by some CHO areas, where the value is <5, any release or further breakdown of numbers, could inadvertently lead to the identification of individuals.



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
R: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital,
Palmerstown, Dublin 20.
Email: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

| Total No. of Persons | Total Cost (€) | Location of Treatment |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 33 | 25,027,548.98 | Treatment UK/ Northern Ireland |

In addition to the data above, the TAS have advised of the following for the period 2014-2023:

| Total Cost (€) | No. of children | No. of adults |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 4,355,948.60 | 12 | 17 |

TAS have confirmed that all patients access their care in the United Kingdom.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony McCusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services