



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

28th June 2023

PQ Number: 28227/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of Psychiatrists employed in each prison; the vacancy rates for Psychiatry Staff within prison services; 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.

Prison Location	Psychiatric Consultant – WTE*	Vacancy Rate
Arbour Hill	0.1	0
Castlerea	1.0	0
Cloverhill	1.0 + 0.2	0
Cork	0.6**	IPS Psychiatrist, 0.6 Post NFMHS**
Dochas	0.3	0
Midlands	0.9	0
Mountjoy	0.8	0
Portlaoise	0.1	0
Shelton Abbey	2.0 (Monthly/as required)	0
Wheatfield	0.4	0
Total WTE*	5.4 (plus Shelton Abbey)	

Note: *WTE – Whole Time Equivalents

IPS - Irish Prison Service employ a Consultant Psychiatric.

*0.6** Post allocated through the NFMHS (Central Mental Hospital) offered and awaiting appointment to post.*



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The National Forensic Mental Health Service (NFMHS) provide forensic Consultant Psychiatry services to the above prisons. They are currently in the process of appointing a Consultant Psychiatric, who will be join the NFMHS Prison in Reach team in Cork Prison.

In addition to above, the NFMHS provide Prison in Reach/PCAM (Prison Continuity & Aftercare Management) in all of the above prisons which include in total:

1. Principle Social Worker
2. Senior Social Worker x 2
3. Forensic Community Mental Health Nurse x 13
4. Advanced Nurse Practitioner x 1

The HSE have a Consultant Psychiatric providing in reach to Limerick Prison, it is planned for this in reach service to transfer to the National Forensic Mental Health Service in the future.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mc Cusker', written over a light grey circular stamp.

Tony Mc Cusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services