



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

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

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

20<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**PQ Number: 29380/23**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health his views on the number of inpatient beds for CAMHS; if he will explain difference between the numbers cited in Parliamentary Question No. 626 of 31 May 2022 and those in the Mental Health Commission's Annual Report 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

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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.

As the Mental Health Commission (MHC) Report is an end of year report for 2022 it is likely that there will be variance from the HSE supplied figures in May 2022. At the end of 2022 there were 72 HSE CAMHS inpatient beds registered with the MHC.

However, over the year, the number of operational beds, i.e., those beds available for admissions, can fluctuate below this number based on clinical risk assessment within a specific unit.

Examples of such risks would include availability of appropriately trained staff through vacancies and the clinical mix and risks associated with the patients already admitted to the unit (severe challenging behaviours, vulnerable patient group).

Over 2022 the number of operational beds fluctuated for various reasons, mainly due to staff vacancy issues, infection control & building works. However, in December 2022 the operational CAMHS beds available in HSE facilities stood at:

<b>Linn Dara:</b>	<b>24 Registered, 13 Operational</b>
<b>Merlin park:</b>	<b>20 Registered, 14 Operational</b>
<b>Eist Linn:</b>	<b>16 Registered, 16 Operational</b>
<b>St Vincent's, Fairview:</b>	<b>12 Registered, 8 Operational</b>



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While the HSE cannot advise on the Mental Health Commission figures in their annual report, table 1 of the report refers to 'registered inpatient beds' rather than operational beds. In addition, the MHC publish information on **all** approved centres including the HSE and private providers.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mc Cusker', written in a cursive style.

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**Tony Mc Cusker**  
**General Manager**  
**National Mental Health Services**