



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

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
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Deputy Nessa Hourigan.
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

17th April 2023

PQ Number: 13764/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of 24-hour staffed community mental health residences in CHO5 and CHO8; the percentage of those facilities that meet the requirements of the HSE Design for Mental Health Guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Nessa Hourigan

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

People with poor mental health require access to good-quality, secure and appropriate housing to facilitate and sustain their recovery. Housing supports for those with mental illness require effective collaboration between government departments, local authorities and social housing organisations. There is also a need to ensure that those with complex mental health difficulties receive multi-disciplinary supports from health professionals in order to improve their quality of life. Service users also require assistance to sustain tenancies and live independently. As a result, there must be effective liaison between HSE mental health services and local authorities in the provision of social housing for those who require it.

In 2016, *Design for Mental Health: Housing Design Guidelines* were published by the HSE and the Housing Agency to promote independent living and recovery for people living with mental health difficulties. It was developed as a roadmap to what should be considered in relation to the development of housing for people with enduring mental illness. The document is particularly useful for those involved in providing housing for people diagnosed with mental health conditions including service users, families and carers, housing providers, housing professionals in local authorities and voluntary housing bodies, including health service professionals such as occupational therapists, along with architects and other design professionals.



In response to your Parliamentary Question, this guidance document is primarily aimed at those people who are living independently in the community, most notably those residing in medium and low support residences. These guidelines are not aimed at 24-hour staffed high support community mental health residences and are focused on new build and retrofit of properties that may have tenants with mental health needs. As per your request the attached appendices provide detail on the number of 24-hour staffed community mental health residences in South East Community Healthcare (CHO5) and Community Health Organisation Midlands/Louth/Meath (CHO8).

Recommendation 70 of the 'Sharing the Vision Implementation Plan 2022 -2024' refers to the housing design guidelines and associated actions of same.

Recommendation 70		
Recommendation The housing design guidelines published by the HSE and the Housing Agency in 2016 to promote independent living and mental health recovery should be a reference point for all housing-related actions in this policy.	Actions Use housing design guidelines as a basis for all housing related actions.	
Lead HSE Mental Health Operations / HSE Mental Health Housing Group	Supporting partner(s) Housing agencies / Department of Housing / Local authorities / Advocacy / CHO Housing Co-ordinators / SRF	Timeframe Short-term
Summary of understanding – our interpretation of what is to be achieved Access to good quality, secure and appropriate housing for people experiencing good mental health to facilitate and sustain their recovery.		
Inputs required for 2022–2024 – process perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish working group to oversee the implementation of the recommendations Publish new National Housing Strategy, incorporating recommendation from StV within its objectives. 		
Inputs required for 2022–2024 – implementation perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inputs required to be confirmed when National Housing Strategy is published. 		
Milestones 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form a steering group to oversee the development of a National Housing Strategy for Disabled People Publish new National Housing Strategy for Disabled People. 		
Milestones 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish and review the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People Local Strategic Plan. 		



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Overarching outputs by end of 2024

- Incorporate, where possible, housing design guidelines into all housing-related recommendations contained in StV.

Outcome indicator

Housing design guidelines are incorporated, where possible, in all housing-related recommendations contained in StV.

HSE Capital and Estates have confirmed that they follow all statutory standards and guidelines when working with mental health services for the provision of housing for people with mental health conditions.

Of note, the Mental Health Commission are currently seeking to expand their inspection remit to include HSE operated high support (24 hour staffed) community residences. Currently, there is no timeframe for same and any further queries or clarifications regarding this should be directed to the Commission.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/mentalhealth/sharing-the-vision-implementation-plan-2022.pdf>

<https://www.housingagency.ie/publications/design-mental-health-housing-design-guidelines>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Mc Cusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services



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Appendix 1: Number of 24-hour staffed community mental health residences in South East Community Healthcare (CHOS)

SECH MH CHOS	Residence Name	Address 1	Address 2	Address 3	Address 4
CHO Area 5 – 24 hour residences: Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford, and Wexford	Waterford				
	Ard na Deise	Cleaboy Road	Tycor	Waterford	
	Springmount House	Dungarvan Community Hospital		Co. Waterford	
	Wexford				
	56 Westlands	John's Road	Wexford		
	Springhill 1, 2, 3	Killagooley Lane	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford	
	Tus Nua	St. John's Hospital	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford	
	Havenview	St. John's Hospital	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford	
	Millview	St. John's Hospital	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford	
	An Tearmann (crisis House)	St. John's Hospital	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford	
	The Willows	Ardamine	Riverchapel	Gorey	Co. Wexford
	Craoi na Tobair	Cum an Tobair	Oylegate	Enniscorthy	Co. Wexford
	58, Westlands	John's Road	Wexford		
	Kilkenny				
	Altamount House	Dublin Road	Kilkenny		
	Lismore	Sion Road	Kilkenny		
	Kincora	Sion Road	Kilkenny		
	Caomhnu	Kilcreene Hospital Complex	Kilkenny		
	Alacantha*	Freshford Road	Kilkenny		
	Carlow				
	Park Lodge	Athy Road	Carlow		
	Elm Park Drive	75 Elmpark Drive	Carlow		
	Kelvin Court*	St. Dymphna's Hospital Complex	Carlow		
	Sacred Heart Hostel	St. Dymphna's Hospital Complex	Carlow		
	Beechwood Drive	65 Beechwood Drive	Carlow		
	Greenbanks Crisis House	Athy Road	Carlow		
	Tipperary				
	Haven House			Clonmel	Co. Tipperary
	Mount Sion	Murgasty Road	Tipperary Town	Co. Tipperary	
	Lorica	William Street	Cashel	Co. Tipperary	
	Garryshane House	Western Road	Clonmel	Co. Tipperary	



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Appendix 2: Number of 24-hour staffed community mental health residences in Community Health Organisation Midlands/Louth/Meath (CHO8)

Midlands
Glenavon Community Rehabilitation Residence, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
Ashford House Community Rehabilitation Residence, Longford
Hillcrest House Community Rehabilitation Residence, Longford
Aisling Community Rehabilitation Residence, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath
Erkina House ,Rathdowney, Co. Laois
Grove House Abbeyleix, Co. Laois
Birchwood House, Tullamore, Co. Offaly
Louth Meath
St. Mary's Drogheda
The Moorings, Dundalk
Rath Na Riagh, Navan
An Folasan, Dundalk