



Cheann na Seirbhíse,
An Príomh-Ospidéal Meabhair-Ghalar, An
tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Meabhairshláinte
Fhóirínseach

Diméin Phort Reachrann, Port Reachrann,
Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath. K36 FD79

Head of Service
Central Mental Hospital, National
Forensic Mental Health Service

Portrane Demesne, Portrane,
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Deputy Cormac Devlin
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Date: 9th August 2024

PQ Number: 29184/24

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of people attending in-reach psychiatry services in the Irish Prison Service on 1 July 2024; the number attending the National Forensic Mental Health Services facilities at each of Cloverhill and Mountjoy Prisons; the number of people attending the Central Mental Hospital; the number of people on a waiting list for each of those services; the average waiting time for those currently waiting and the average time waited by those who gain access to each of those services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Devlin,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In addition to Clinical and Residential Community Services, National Forensic Mental Health Service including the Central Mental Hospital also provides a Prison In-Reach Programme (PCAM) and Court Liaison Service (PICLS)

Prison In-Reach clinics and Court Liaison Services are provided to persons, who have been admitted to the CMH and returned to the prison under section 18 Criminal Law (Insanity) Act 2006, individuals who are on the waiting list for admission to CMH or diversion to Community Mental Health Teams or anyone with a severe mental illness who requires psychiatric treatment. Services are currently provided in Cloverhill, Mountjoy, Dochas Centre, Wheatfield, Midlands, Castlereagh, Arbour Hill, Oberstown, Portlaoise, Shelton Abbey and Cork Prisons The prison in-reach clinics are provided in close cooperation with the Irish Prison Service primary care teams. In addition, the service facilitates diversion from the criminal justice system where possible.



‘The total number of people attending in-reach psychiatry services in the Irish Prison Service on 1 July 2024; the number attending the National Forensic Mental Health Services facilities at each of Cloverhill and Mountjoy Prisons’

Please note that the statistics requested for date as of 1st July 2024 are not yet available to NFMHS for requested locations

The table below provides the statistics as of **June 2024** for Prison In-Reach Services:

Prison Continuity & Aftercare Management (PCAM) June 2024	
Statistics for Requested Locations – Cloverhill & Mountjoy Prisons	
Cloverhill	
Active Patients	69
Patients Seen	51
New Patients	17
Patients Reviewed*	127
Discharged	16
Mountjoy	
Active Patients	48
Patients Seen	39
New Patients	6
Patients Reviewed*	71
Discharged	6
*Patient Reviewed - patient may be reviewed multiple times	

‘The number of people attending the Central Mental Hospital; the number of people on a waiting list for each of those services; the average waiting time for those currently waiting’

The Approved Centre currently has operational capacity of 112 Beds. Following the transition to Portrane, admissions have occurred on a weekly basis.

On the **1st of July 2024**, there were 111 Patients in the Central Mental Hospital. A total of 21 individuals in prison on the waiting list awaiting admission to CMH.



'The average waiting time for those currently waiting and the average time waited by those who gain access to each of those services'

Six individuals have been on the waiting list for less than 4 months, 12 individuals for less than 2 months. The longest length of time for 3 individuals is 9 months, 8 months and 7 months respectively.

CMH have a clinical governance framework for review of the waiting list and admissions to the hospital. Admissions are dependent on vacancies within the admission wards, needs of current patients; prioritisation of waiting list based on need and associated risks to individuals and ability for service to admit an individual safely.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pat Bergin'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Pat Bergin
Head of Service
Central Mental Hospital
National Forensic Mental health Service