



Office of the Assistant National Director
Access and Integration

HSE Mental Health Services,
St. Loman's Hospital,
Palmerstown, Dublin 20
D20HK69

Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta
Rochtain agus Comhtháthú: Seirbhísi
Meabhairshláinte FSS

Ospidéal Naomh Loman
Baile Phámar, Baile Átha Cliath 20
D20HK69

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

e:PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Deputy Pádraig Rice.
Dail Eireann, Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

07th November 2025

PQ Number: 56663/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of acute psychiatric inpatient beds delivered to date in 2025, by site and health region; and the number scheduled for delivery in the remaining months of 2025, in tabular form. -Pádraig Rice

Dear Deputy Rice,

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.

In line with Government policy, the continued development of mental health services in Ireland over the past 30 years has broadly been aimed at:

- Modernising mental health services that historically were centred on institutional care by building the workforce and investing in fit for purpose infrastructure
- Promoting positive mental health at all levels of society, intervening early when problems develop, and providing accessible, comprehensive and community-based mental health services
- Enhancing the capacity of primary care services to respond to mental health needs
- Taking a person-centred approach with a focus on enabling and supporting the recovery journey of each individual, based on clinical advice and learning from lived experience
- Increasing the participation of service users, families, carers and supporters in the design and delivery of mental health services.

Acute inpatient beds

As set out in response to PQ 56662/25, as of Q2, 2025, there were 1,022 beds in HSE-operated acute adult inpatient approved centres. This figure does not include privately provided acute inpatient beds. There are 72 registered Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service inpatient beds nationally.

In 2024, the HSE's then Chief Operations Officer established a Capital Planning Group for Mental Health Services to address issues related to capacity and suitability of premises in the wider context of the overall mental health estate. This group is tasked with:



- Identifying and prioritising mental health capital requirements over the next five to ten years based on existing and future service needs, and on regulatory requirements.
- Providing advice on the development of the future financial architecture of HSE mental health services in terms of capital expenditure, including design of capital programmes and changes to the approach to pricing.
- Creating an initial 3-year plan outlining infrastructural works required to achieve infrastructural regulatory compliance in all registered mental health facilities.
- Completing a medium- and long-term strategic mental health capital estates plan aligned to the HSE Health Regions and to the implementation of *Sharing the Vision – a mental health policy for everyone 2020 – 2030*.

The Mental Health Commission has expressed concern around levels of compliance with regulations on premises, including in its 2024 Annual Report. In July 2024, the CEO of the HSE met with the CEO of the Mental Health Commission and agreed to provide a capital plan for five identified approved centre sites that are at critical risk of enforcement action and deemed a priority for replacement/refurbishment in the coming years. In October 2024, the Capital Planning Group completed a Mental Health Approved Centre Priority Sites Capital Planning Report.

The HSE National Service Plan for 2025 committed to expand the bed provision of the Central Mental Hospital from 18 beds to 130. This planned expansion will continue into 2026. Meanwhile, there will be a new 20 bedded CAMHS inpatient unit as part of the Children's Hospital Ireland (CHI) development.

Alternative pathways to care

Alongside enhancing acute bed capacity, building access to specialist care closer to home will help reduce avoidable hospital admissions and support individuals in their recovery journey. In May 2023, a Model of Care for Crisis Resolution Services was launched in the recognition that people who are experiencing a mental health crisis can often benefit from brief intensive support. Delivered as part of *Sharing the Vision*, this important service has two key components:

- **Crisis resolution teams** provide intensive mental health interventions and support in the service user's home and in the community as an alternative to a hospital admission. These multi-disciplinary teams assess the service user's needs and develop a co-produced care plan that supports the individual service user on their recovery journey.
- **Solace Cafés** provide an out-of-hours crisis response service in the evenings and at weekends in a friendly, supportive and non-clinical environment. Staffed by peer connectors, trained volunteers and other staff, these cafés provide a range of supports, psychosocial assistance and signposting.

In addition to the five crisis resolution services already funded, three new services, including Solace Cafés, have been funded as part of the mental health budget for 2026.



The Deputy may also wish to consult with the response issued to him in respect of PQ 56662/25, which outlines the number of acute psychiatric inpatient beds by site and health region in tabular form.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Chambers
General Manager (Policy Implementation)
HSE Access & Integration: National Mental Health