

INSPECTORATE OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
CATCHMENT TEAM REPORT
INSPECTION 2013

HSE AREA	West
CATCHMENT AREA	Mid West Mental Health Services
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE	Limerick, Clare, North Tipperary
POPULATION	379,327
NUMBER OF SECTORS	11
NUMBER OF APPROVED CENTRES	5
SPECIALIST TEAMS	Psychiatry of Old Age Liaison Mental Health of Intellectual Disability Rehabilitation Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
DATE OF MEETING	9 May 2013

Summary

- The three former catchment areas of Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary had successfully combined to form a functioning super catchment area, with one Executive Clinical Director and one Area Director of Nursing.
- The number of nurses working in in-patient units had decreased from 190 in 2008 to 117 in 2013.
- The number of occupational therapists and social workers had increased, whilst the number of psychologists had decreased.
- There were no community residences or day hospitals in the North Tipperary area of the catchment area.
- The Forensic Service, as provided by the Limerick sector, was poorly resourced in terms of staffing levels.
- The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service had received 17 additional members of staff for their community teams.
- There was a consumer panel of service users and carers, but there was no service user representation on the senior management team as yet.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

The Limerick, Clare, North Tipperary catchment covered a large area with a population of almost 380,000 people. The three original smaller catchment areas had amalgamated and now had an Executive Clinical Director and an Area Director of Nursing. There were five approved centres in the catchment area with a total of 79 acute admission beds.

PROGRESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 2008 CATCHMENT REPORT

Limerick:

1. At this stage, the urgent closure of St. Joseph's Hospital should be advanced from plan to action.

Outcome: This plan had progressed to the stage where only one ward with 11 beds remained.

2. More suitable normalised accommodation should be sought for those in large 24-hour supervised residences.

Outcome: The large 24-hour residences continued to be occupied.

3. The rehabilitation team should be enhanced to provide assessment and active rehabilitation for the above group of service users.

Outcome: This had happened.

Clare:

1. Each of three approved centres must be compliant with the Regulations, Rules and Codes of Practice and compliance with regard to Cappahard must be a priority.

Outcome: Full compliance had not been reached by either of the two approved centres.

2. The management team should be representative of all disciplines.

Outcome: This had been achieved.

3. All of the clinical teams should be fully resourced.

Outcome: This had not happened.

North Tipperary:

1. This service should include plans for development of its in-patient and specialised community service as soon as possible.

Outcome: This had happened with the closure of St. Michael's Unit in Clonmel and the re-location of in-patient services to the APU, Ennis.

2. The service should have its own service plan.

Outcome: This recommendation was no longer applicable.

3. An occupational therapist should be included on the community teams as soon as possible.

Outcome: There was now an occupational therapist on each of the teams although not all were full whole time equivalent (WTE) post holders.

DEVELOPMENTS 2012-2013

- The three catchment areas had become one super catchment area.

TOTAL STAFFING CMHT (*Comparison with 2008*)

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Medical Staff (WTE)	2008	2013
Total Number of Psychiatrists	16	12.95
Total number of Senior Registrars	3	1
Total Number of NCHDs	22	13.5

Nursing Staff (WTE)	2008	2013
Area DON	0	1
DON	2.18	2
ADON	16.56	3.89
Nurses in in-patient units	190.83	117.54
Nurses in community residences	181.22	145.18
CMHN	11	16.78
Day services	69.25	57.10
Other	61.37	25.39

Health and Social Care Professionals (WTE)	2008	2013
Occupational therapist	7.2	14
Psychologist	13.8	9
Social Worker	10.6	12.05
Addiction counsellor	2.5	5.1
Art therapist	1.2	Unknown

CMHT – Community Mental Health Team

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

DON – Director of Nursing

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CMHN – Community Mental Health Nurse

Approved Centres:

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Approved Centre Name	Number of Beds	Teams Responsible
Unit 5B, Limerick Regional Hospital	40	General Adult
St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick	11	Rehabilitation
Tearman Ward, St. Camillus Hospital, Limerick	21	Psychiatry of Old Age
APU, Ennis General Hospital	39	General Adult
Cappahard Lodge	34	Psychiatry of Old Age

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

24 hour residences

Name of Residence	Number of Beds	Number of Staff	Rent (per week)
New Strand Lodge, Limerick	17	9 x Nursing staff 3 x Attendants	€25 + €30 for food
Ferndale, Limerick	19	11 x Nursing staff 3 x Attendants	€25 + €30 for food
Ivernia	14	5 x Nursing staff 2.5 x Attendants	€25 + €30 for food
O'Connell House, Limerick	24	17.64 x Nursing staff 6 x Attendants	€25 + €30 for food
Inisgile, Limerick	28	22 x Nursing staff Attendants x 2	€25 + €30 for food
Gort Glas, Ennis	20	Due to close in June 2013	
Teach na Beithe, Ennis	7	WTE x 4.72	€32 + €30 for food
Avonree, Kilrush	9	9.44 x Nursing	€67 + €30 for food
Cois Mara, Spanish Point	14	11.8 x Nursing	€67 + €30 for food
Orchard Grove, Ennis	10	9.44 x Nursing	€153

Medium Support Residences

Name of Residence	Number of Beds	Number of Staff- <i>all non-nursing</i>	Rent
Landsdowne Park	5	2	€25
Roma	5	1	€25
The Lodge, Ferndale	4	1	€25
Beech Hill	5	1	€25
Vizes Court	6	2	€25
Johnsgate	8	2	€25
5/6 Ashfield Close	8	2	€25
24 Mountain View	6	2	€23.50
63 Shannon Heights	4	2	€23.50
Prague House	6	2	€23.50

Low Support Residences

Name of Residence	Number of Beds	Number of Staff	Rent
Verona Tce.	3	None	€25
Verona Tce.	2	None	€25
Norbiton Hill	4	None	€25
St. Joseph's Street	3	None	€25
103 Aughanteeroe	4	None	€23.50
71 Shannon Heights	4	None	€23.50

There were some supervisory staff in the medium support residences but these were non-nursing staff.

GENERAL ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Sector Name: Sector A

Population: 26,107

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM11		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		2	
Other Nursing Staff: CNM Staff Nurse		1 2	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		1	
Addiction counsellor		0.5	
Art Therapist		0.2	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing
CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager
CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Tevere Day Hospital, Limerick	
Day Hospital	0		
Day Centre	1	Belfield Day Centre, Ennis Rd. ,Limerick	This day centre was run by the rehabilitation team.

Sector Name: Sector B**Population: 54,036****Description:**

The Sector B team was divided into Sector B1 (population 37,345) and B2 (population 16,691). The consultant psychiatrist from Sector B2 was assigned on a 0.4 WTE capacity to provide a forensic service which included visiting Limerick prison.

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1.6	Additional 0.4 post allocated to provide a forensic service
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1.5	
ADON/CNM2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		0.89	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS/Staff nurse		3.5	
Occupational therapist		1.4	Additional 0.6 post assigned to managerial work
Psychologist		2	
Social worker		0.6	Additional 0.4 post assigned to managerial work
Addiction counsellor		0.5	

*NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor, ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing, CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager
CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist*

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	St. Anne's Day Hospital, Roxboro Rd., Limerick	
Day Hospital	1	St. Anne's Day Hospital, Roxboro Rd., Limerick	
Day Centre	0		

Sector Name: Sector C**Population:** 48,145

Sector C was divided into Sector C1 (population 31,319) and Sector C2 (population 16,826).
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Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1.6	Additional 0.4 post assigned to teaching role
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		2	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		0.89	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		5	
Occupational therapist		1.4	Additional 0.6 post assigned to work in Unit 5B
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		1.8	Additional 0.2 post assigned to work in Unit 5B
Addiction counsellor		0	Post vacant
Art Therapist		0.2	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor, ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing, CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager, CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Willowdale Day Hospital, Raheen, Limerick	
Day Hospital	1	Willowdale Day Hospital, Raheen, Limerick	
Day Centre	0		

Sector Name: Sector D

Population: 38,537

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		4	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		0	Post vacant due to leave
Social worker		1	
Addiction counsellor		0.8	Shared

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Churchtown Day Hospital, Newcastle West	
Day Hospital	1	Newcastle West	
Day Centre	1	O'Connell House, Newcastle West	Run by the rehabilitation team

Sector Name: Sector E

Population: 24,984

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	Shared by 2 x 0.5 WTE
Senior Registrar		1	
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurse		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		3	
Occupational therapist		0.5	Additional 0.5 post assigned to work in Unit 5B
Psychologist		0.5	Additional 0.5 post assigned to work in Rehabilitation team
Social worker		0.3	Also working in St. Anne's Day Hospital
Addiction counsellor		0.4	Shared

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Kilmallock Day Hospital	
Day Hospital	1	Kilmallock Day Hospital	
Day Centre	1	Ivy Gate, Kilmallock	

Clare Mental Health Services

Sector Name: North Clare Sector 2A

Population: 20,207

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		0.5	Additional 0.5 WTE post assigned to West sector
Senior Registrar		0	0.5 WTE post vacant
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		1	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		0.25	Additional 0.25 WTE assigned to West sector + 0.5 WTE post assigned to managerial work
Addiction counsellor		0	1 WTE post vacant

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Stella Maris, Lisdoonvara	
Day Hospital	0		
Day Centre	1	Ennistymon	

Sector Name: West Sector 2D**Population:** 20,013

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		0.5	Additional 0.5 WTE post assigned to North Clare Sector
Senior Registrar		0	0.5 post vacant
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		0	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		2	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		0	1 post vacant
Social worker		0.25	See West sector
Addiction counsellor		0	0.5 WTE post vacant

*NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor**ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing**CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager**CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist*

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Kilrush Day Hospital	
Day Hospital	0		
Day Centre	0		

Sector Name: South Sector 2B**Population:** 38,876

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	0.5 WTE post vacant
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		0	1 WTE post vacant
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		1	
Occupational therapist		1.1	1 x 0.6 WTE;1 x0.5WTE Post shared with Rehabilitation team
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		2	Post holders also work in the APU, Ennis
Addiction counsellor		1	

*NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor**ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing**CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager**CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist**APU – Acute Psychiatric Unit*

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Shannon Day Hospital	
Day Hospital	1	Shannon Day Hospital	
Day Centre	0		

Sector Name: East Sector 2C

Population: 38,100

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	0.5 WTE post vacant
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		2	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		0.8	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		0.8	Post holder working reduced hours
Addiction counsellor		0	

*NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing
CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager
CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist*

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Ennis Day Hospital	
Day Hospital	1	Ennis Day Hospital	
Day Centre	0		

North Tipperary

Sector Name: Nenagh Sector 3A

Population: 37,400

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON/ CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		1.5	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		1	1 WTE post vacant
Social worker		0.5	Additional 0.5 WTE post assigned to work as Principal social worker
Addiction counsellor		1	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Nenagh Day Hospital, Dromin Rd. Nenagh	
Day Hospital	1	Nenagh Day Hospital, Dromin Rd. Nenagh	
Day Centre	1	Teach Aonach, Nenagh	

Sector Name: Thurles Sector 3B

Population: 32,922

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		0.75	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON/CNM 2		1	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS, Staff nurse		1.4	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		0	
Social worker		1	
Addiction counsellor		1	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	St. Mary's Health Centre, Thurles	
Day Hospital	1	Thurles Day Hospital	
Day Centre	1	St. Mary's Day Centre, Thurles	

PSYCHIATRY of OLD AGE, Limerick

Description of service

There were two psychiatry of old age teams in the Limerick catchment area, serving a population of 23,313 over 65 years. The teams had access to 26 beds in two approved centres.

Name: Psychiatry of Old Age, Limerick

Population: 191,809

Population over 65: 23,313

Facilities	Beds
Acute	5 in Unit 5B, Mid Western Hospital, Limerick 21 beds in Tearman Ward, St. Camillus Hospital, Limerick for assessment.
Continuing Care	None
Dementia	Unit 5B, Tearman Ward, St. Camillus Hospital

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		2	
Senior Registrar		1	
NCHD		1	
ADON		0	
Community Mental Health Nurses		1	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS		0.8	
Occupational therapist		0	
Psychologist		1	
Social worker		1	

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Seanoira Day Hospital, Shelbourne, Road, Limerick	
Day Hospital	1	Seanoira Day Hospital, Shelbourne Road, Limerick	The service had a day hospital, but due to restrictions on space, it could only function on one day each week.
Day Centre	0		

Developments:

- Thirteen posts for old age psychiatry had been approved and six of these had been assigned to the old age psychiatry team for Limerick.
- The day hospital operated from St.Camillus' Hospital one day each week.

PSYCHIATRY of OLD AGE, Clare

Description of service

There was one psychiatry of old age team in the Ennis catchment area, serving a population of 14,519 over 65 years. The team had access to 39 beds in two approved centres in Ennis.

Name: Psychiatry of Old Age, Clare

Population: 117,196

Population over 65: 14,519

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Facilities	Beds
Acute	5 in APU, Mid Western Hospital, Ennis
Continuing Care	34 beds in Cappahard Lodge, Ennis.
Dementia	As above

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	0.5 WTE post vacant
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON		0	
Community Mental Health Nurses		2	
Occupational therapist		1	
Psychologist		0	
Social worker		1	

*NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing*

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Cappahard Lodge, Ennis	
Day Hospital	0		
Day Centre	0		

REHABILITATION TEAM

Description of service

There was a rehabilitation team in both Limerick and Clare. There was none in North Tipperary. The rehabilitation service had access to acute beds in Unit 5B, Mid Western Hospital, Limerick and in the APU, Mid Western Hospital, Ennis. In addition, there were 11 beds in St. Joseph's Hospital, also in Limerick. Other places were available in the 24 hour nurse-staffed residences, some of which were owned by voluntary agencies.

Rehabilitation Team, Clare

Population: 117,196

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

BEDS	Number
Acute	In the approved centres above
Continuing Care	20 beds in 24hr Residence
Rehabilitation	17 beds in 24hr residences

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON		0.5	
Community Mental Health Nurses		5	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS		1	
Occupational therapist		2	1x 0.5 WTE basic grade 1x 0.4 WTE manager
Psychologist		1	Senior
Social worker		0.8	Basic grade

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing
CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	Cappahard Lodge	Unsuitable location
Day Hospital	0	None	
Day Centre	1 1	Ennis town Kilrush	Rented premises

Developments:

- The team continued to work to reduce the number of residences previously associated with the closure of the large psychiatric institution in the town.
- A number of service users of the rehabilitation service have developed age-related difficulties with the result that admission was required to Cappahard Lodge.

Rehabilitation Team, Limerick

Population: 191,809

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

BEDS	Number
Acute	In the approved centres above
Continuing Care	11
Rehabilitation	In 24 hr residences

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON		0.5	
Community Mental Health Nurses		2	
Other Nursing Staff: Advanced Nurse Practitioner CNM		1 1	
Occupational therapist	Senior	1	
Psychologist	Staff	0.6	0.4 WTE shared with Sector E
Social worker	Basic	1	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing
CNM – Clinical Nurse Manager

Facilities	Number	Location	Comment
Sector Headquarters	1	St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick	
Day Hospital	0		
Day Centre	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limerick x 2 • Kilmallock x1 • Newcastlewest x1 	

Developments:

- Residents of Aurora Ward in St. Joseph's Hospital came under the care of the rehabilitation team in 2012.
- The rehabilitation team received funding from GENIO, a philanthropic agency, for some of its activities.
- All residences, except one, were under the care of the rehabilitation team.
- A psychologist was appointed to a 0.6 WTE post in 2012.

LIAISON PSYCHIATRY

Description of service

There was a liaison service in the University Hospital, Limerick which had approximately 400 beds. The team was poorly staffed and it was reported that staffing of the team at week-ends was a frequent problem. The liaison team also provided a service to three other general hospitals in the Limerick area. Funding for the liaison service was from the mental health budget.

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		1	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		1	
ADON		0	
Community Mental Health Nurses		0	
Other Nursing Staff: CNS		3	
Occupational therapist		0	
Psychologist		0.5	
Social worker		0	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Developments:

- A psychologist had been appointed to the team on a 0.5 WTE basis in 2012.
- It was planned to include a social worker in the team in the near future.

OTHER TEAMS: Forensic Service

Description of service

A forensic service was provided by a very limited team consisting of three part-time staff members. The service operated a triage service for mental health problems to 350 prisoners in Limerick prison. In addition, the team provided a court diversion service whereby prisoners could be re-directed to their own local psychiatric service. Forensic assessments for in-patients of Unit 5 B were also carried out. The budget for this service was managed by the National Forensic Service. In addition to managing this forensic service, the consultant had responsibility for a sector team.

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE	Comment
Consultant psychiatrist		0.4	
Senior Registrar		0	
NCHD		0.4	
ADON		0	
Community Mental Health Nurses		0.2	
Other Nursing Staff		0	
Occupational therapist		0	
Psychologist		0	
Social worker		0	

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor
ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

Developments:

- Six hundred and eight prisoners were seen in Limerick prison in 2012.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH TEAMS (CAMHS)

Population under 18 years: Limerick: 46,067

Clare: 30,666

North Tipperary: 18,256

Number of Sectors: 5

Approved Centres: None in the Limerick/Clare/North Tipperary area

Number of Beds: None

Day Hospitals: None

Other Facilities: None

Description of service

There were five CAMHS teams in the area, for a total population of 94,989 under 18s. They were located in Limerick (3), Clare (1) and North Tipperary (1).

TOTAL STAFFING OF CAMHS TEAMS

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE
Consultant psychiatrist		5.05
Senior Registrar		2
NCHD		3
ADON		1
Community Mental Health Nurses		7
Occupational therapist		6
Psychologist		6.2
Social worker		6.5
Speech and Language therapist		5
Child care workers/Social care workers		3

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

Developments:

- An additional 17 posts were sanctioned and funded in 2012 which enabled a range of health and social care workers to be employed in the CAMHS service.
- None of the Limerick premises were suitable and the service was currently investigating the possibility of having purpose-built premises being constructed, although it was acknowledged that such a prospect was unlikely at present.

MENTAL HEALTH AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICE

Population: 379,327

Approved Centres: There were no designated beds for patients with an intellectual disability and mental illness.

Number of Beds: None

Day Hospitals: None

Other Facilities: Twenty three beds were occupied by residents of MHID service in 24 hour residences in Co. Clare.

Description of service

The MHID service was not provided directly by the Health Service Executive (HSE). It was provided by the voluntary sector under a service level agreement between the Brothers of Charity, the Daughters of Charity and the HSE, with funding from the National Lottery and Grant Aid. In the Limerick/Clare/North Tipperary area, there was one team for adults with a mental illness and intellectual disability and a second team for children with a similar presentation. The service was provided solely by two very limited teams staffed with medical and nursing staff only.

TOTAL STAFFING OF MENTAL HEALTH AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICE

Entries for 2013 are stated as at the date of the 2013 catchment area meeting

Post	Grade	WTE
Consultant psychiatrist		1.75
Senior Registrar		0
NCHD		2.5
ADON		0
Community Mental Health Nurses		0
Other Nursing Staff (based in community residences)		21.24
Occupational therapist		0
Psychologist		0
Social worker		0
Speech and Language therapist		0
Child care workers/Social care workers		0

NCHD – Non Consultant Hospital Doctor

ADON – Assistant Director of Nursing

Developments:

- Funding for two CNM2 community nursing posts has been provided for within the HSE Mid West area.

SERVICE USER INVOLVEMENT

There was no service user representative on the Senior Management Team (SMT) or the Clinical Governance group but a service user representative had been included in the group overseeing the re-development of Unit 5B, in Limerick Regional Hospital and had also been involved in a number of other projects in the service. The service user advocate had recently been replaced and the current advocate had not yet been in a position to visit the units.

A consumer panel was in operation in the area and met monthly; the development of the panel had been assisted by the assignment of two members of the rehabilitation team to the panel.

GOVERNANCE

In October 2011, an Interim SMT was established to cover the Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary areas. The current SMT comprised the Area manager, the Executive Clinical Director (ECD), the area Director of Nursing (DON), a business manager, and a representative from each of the disciplines of the health and social care professionals. There was no service user representative on the SMT. The group met fortnightly and had been in position since October 2012. There were two other governance groups, the Quality, Risk and Safety Governance Committee and the Clinical Governance Group neither of which included a service user representative among its members.

The psychiatry of old age team in Clare had been involved in developing a specialised unit in Ennis for care of people with dementia which had been completed over two years ago. However, due to a difficulty in staffing the new unit, it remained unopened as a dementia unit and was currently in use by the Elderly Care services in Clare.

CONCLUSION

The amalgamation of the three former catchment areas of Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary appeared to be functioning smoothly. There were 11 sectors with 13 community mental health teams across the area, and although the service had benefited from the recent resource allocation for the provision of additional health and social care professionals, three teams had no psychologist in post, and three teams did not have a full WTE social worker post holder in place.

Despite the fact that CMHT headquarters were called Day Hospitals, there were no actual functioning day hospitals in the service. As a consequence, there was a limit to what patient management could be carried out in the community with the result that admission to in-patient units would be more likely.

A Vision for Change recommended that sector teams should be in excess of 50,000 population but most of the sectors in the catchment area had populations less than this.

It was disappointing to note the lack of involvement by service users in senior governance committees and it is recommended that the service address this deficit in management.

RECOMMENDATIONS 2013

1. Day Hospitals should be developed in the CMHT headquarters as is recommended by *A Vision for Change*.
2. The service should facilitate the involvement of a service user representative at senior management level.
3. Consideration should be given to constructing sector teams in line with the recommendations made in *A Vision for Change*.
4. The service should ensure the provision of 24-hr nurse staffed community residences in the North Tipperary area.