

# Inspectorate of Mental Health Services 2013

## 19<sup>th</sup> century public psychiatric hospitals due for closure

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### Brief Report

The Inspectorate of Mental Health Services Report 2011 included an overview of the fifteen public psychiatric hospitals that were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that remained in service between 2007 and 2011. At the end of 2011, thirteen of these hospitals remained in service. At the end of 2012 a further four had closed leaving nine such hospitals continuing in service. At the end of 2013 there were five such hospitals in service. The purpose of this brief summary is to follow on from the 2011 report and provide an update of further closures of these hospitals.

As reported in the 2011 Inspectorate of Mental Health Services Report, St. Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny closed in 2010. St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow, closed as an approved centre in October 2011. The original 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings in St. Brigid's Hospital, Ballinasloe closed to residents in 2011 and St. Otteran's Hospital, Waterford closed in 2010. Following on from that closure, St Monica's Unit, which was located on the campus of St. Otteran's Hospital, and was unfit for purpose, closed in 2012. St. Finan's Hospital in Killarney no longer accommodated residents in its 19<sup>th</sup> century building since 2012. St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel closed as an approved centre in 2012. St. Brendan's Hospital, Dublin closed all remaining beds in its older buildings in spring 2013 and moved to a purpose-built facility, the Phoenix Care Centre, on campus. St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy closed all its remaining beds in early April 2013 and transferred remaining residents to new and existing appropriate accommodation. St. Joseph's Intellectual Disability Services accommodated 19 residents in Ashlea Ward, the only remaining ward in use in the original 19<sup>th</sup> century building, and this closed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2013. St. Edna's Ward in St. Loman's Hospital, Mullingar, the only remaining ward in the original 19<sup>th</sup> century building with 18 beds, closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 following its relocation to newly-refurbished premises on campus. Willowbrook Unit and Woodview Unit, the two remaining in-patient units in St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane, with a combined bed total at the end of 2013 of 27 beds, (up one bed on recent years), were due to close at the end of January 2014.

Blackwater House in St. Davnet's Hospital, Monaghan continued to accommodate 22 residents in its 19<sup>th</sup> century building and, although nicely decorated and very clean, was unsuitable for the provision of a modern mental health service. Aurora Ward in St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick reduced its beds from 16 in 2012 to 9 in 2013. St. Fintan's Hospital, Portlaoise, built in 1832, and which had increased its bed capacity from 27 in 2008 to 43 in 2012, reduced its beds to 28 in 2013. The current plan for the 93-bed National Forensics Mental Health Service is that it will move from its present location at the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum to new premises due to be built on the campus of St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane.

**Table 1: Number of beds remaining in use in original 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings of Public Psychiatric Hospitals that are registered as approved centres as of 31 December 2013**

Hospital	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
St. Brendan's Hospital, Dublin	113	84	82	82	57	56	0
St. Davnet's Hospital, Monaghan	48	36	35	33	22	22	22
St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane	138	139	125	122	26	26	27
St. Joseph's Intellectual Disability Service, Portrane	177	172	165	155	103	19	0
St. Fintan's Hospital, Portlaoise	29	27	30	31	39	43	28
St. Loman's Hospital, Mullingar	154	121	115	108	95	18	0
Central Mental Hospital	87	84	93	93	94	94	93
St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow	69	55	36	15	15	0	0
St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney	60	60	58	52	40	0	0
St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel	131	106	102	71	52	0	0
St. Otteran's Hospital, Waterford	132	115	78	70	14	0	0
St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy	157	147	102	85	46	46	0
St. Brigid's Hospital, Ballinasloe	133	106	94	77	53	0	0
St. Conal's Hospital, Lettterkenny	39	32	27	2	0	0	0
St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick	84	77	65	54	28	16	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>179</b>