

Question on Notice

No. 1418

Asked on 17 October 2018

MR J LISTER asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) –

QUESTION

With reference to page 41 of the 2017-18 Annual Report of the Chief Psychiatrist—

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of forensic patients who absconded and (i) committed a crime and (ii) were special notification forensic patients, (b) the number of forensic order patients who absconded in 2016-17 and (c) of the 133 forensic order patients who absconded in 2017-18, how many were returned to an authorised mental health service?

ANSWER

(a) The Chief Psychiatrist Annual Report for 2017-18 (the Report) identifies that there were 133 Authorities to Transport Absent Patient issued for forensic patients. These relate to 66 forensic patients.

(i) Data provided in the Report is extracted from the Consumer Integrated Mental Health Application (CIMHA). Data relating to patients who were charged with an offence while absent cannot feasibly be extracted from CIMHA.

(ii) The category 'special notification forensic patient' does not exist under the *Mental Health Act 2016*.

(b) The *Mental Health Act 2016* commenced on 5 March 2017. Full year data is therefore not available for 2016-17.

(c) In all 133 instances of an Authority to Transport Absent Patient being issued for a forensic patient; the patient was returned to the authorised mental health service.