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ACTION EIGHTEEN

Mental health: Let's make it happen

WHAT? The critical need for human rights to be at the heart of A Vision for Change

→ ***A Vision for Change* advises that the realisation of human rights in mental health care requires that these principles should be embedded in legal and policy documents.**

→ **Ask the TDs, ministers, the HSE and the Independent Monitoring group:**

- While the Mental Health Act 2001 contains some safeguards for the rights of people involuntarily admitted or detained in in-patient facilities, does your Department plan to publish legislation setting out how the dignity of individuals and the protection of their human rights will be safeguarded in planning and delivering all mental health services, as suggested in *A Vision for Change*? If not, why not?
- What concrete actions has your Department taken to ensure that people responsible for planning and delivering mental health services are familiar with the rights and responsibilities that flow from human rights standards in order that the core values in *A Vision for Change* are to be made meaningful?

WHO?

→ **Call or write to all TDs in your constituency.** (script for phone calls and letters enclosed) TDs have a duty to represent the views of all their constituents and to defend and promote local interests. Remember to call all the TDs in your constituency. **As well as your local TD please send the letter to Mary Harney**

Ms Mary Harney, T.D.
Minister for Health and Children
Department of Health and Children
Hawkins House
Hawkins Street
Dublin 2

Dr. Jimmy Devins T.D.
Minister of State with responsibility
for Disability and Mental Health
Department of Health and Children
Hawkins House
Hawkins Street
Dublin 2

WHEN?→ Send letters to your local TD/Ministers on **Monday 27 April 2008**

Make phone calls on **Wednesday 29 April 2008**