

## [Sample letter to Mary Harney]

[Insert your own  
address]

**Mary Harney  
Minister for Health and Children  
Hawkins House,  
Dublin 2.**

[Insert date]

Dear Ms Harney,

I am writing to express my concern that the essential framework for implementing Ireland's new mental health policy, *A Vision for Change*, published in January 2006, is not yet in place.

One of the key recommendations in *A Vision for Change* was the establishment of a National Mental Health Service Directorate within the Health Services Executive. This Directorate was to play a key role in facilitating the implementation of this policy, and developing a modern mental health service to benefit the entire population.

**[Insert specific concerns in your own community, or use your experience as an example of your concern, related to the monthly question(s)]**

I would be grateful for an answer to the following question:

What steps have been taken to establish a National Mental Health Service Directorate within the Health Service Executive, a key recommendation in *A Vision for Change*?

When will the National Mental Health Service Directorate be established?

I am calling on you to discuss this issue with your party colleagues and raise it with Prof Brendan Drumm, Chief Executive of the Health Service Executive.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,  
**[Insert your name]**