

[Sample letter to Tim O'Malley]

[Insert your own
address]

Tim O'Malley
Minister for Health and Children
Hawkins House,
Dublin 2.

[Insert date]

Dear Mr O'Malley,

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 Mary Harney TD, the Minister for Health and Children, and with Prof Brendan Drumm, Chief Executive of the Health Service Executive.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,
[Insert your name]