



amnesty
international
irish section

ACTION SEVEN

Mental health: Let's make it happen

WHAT?

PRE-ELECTION ACTION: we have outlined a number of questions that you can send to your local TD and ask politicians when they canvass at your door. A detailed implementation plan for *A Vision for Change* is crucial in ensuring that the government improves mental health services in Ireland.

→ **Call or write to** all the TDs in your constituency (script for phone calls and letters enclosed)

→ **Talk to** all politicians who canvass at your door

→ **Ask the TDs and politicians:**

- Will your party commit to producing a detailed implementation plan at the earliest opportunity, setting out the major activities to implement *A Vision for Change*, with explicit performance targets and indicators, timelines, service user involvement and concrete resource commitments?
- Will your party ensure the adoption of an interdepartmental approach between all Government Departments and agencies whose role and function it is to deliver upon any of the recommendations, or address any of the issues, raised in *A Vision for Change*?
- Do you commit to ensure that the programme of capital and non-capital investment in mental health services laid out in *A Vision for Change* relating to expanding public mental health services will be achieved?
- Will your party, if part of the new Government, review legislation and identify what further and better provision could be made in law to meet the goals set out in *A Vision for Change*, and to protect the rights and improve the lives of people with mental health problems?
- Will you ensure that the roles, responsibilities and resourcing of voluntary organisations, service user organisations and service users will be built firmly into the implementation of *A Vision for Change*, and profiled within assessments of its implementation?

WHO? → All TDs in your constituency. 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.

WHEN?→ When politicians call to your door
Send letters to your local TD on Monday, 23 April 2007
Make phone calls on Wednesday, 25 April 2007