



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Quality and Service User Safety,
Mental Health Division,
Health Service Executive,
St Loman's Hospital,
Dublin 10.

29th May 2017

Deputy Pat Buckley
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

17877/17 * To ask the Minister for Health the number of suicides which have been recorded on the grounds of public hospitals following a presentation to accident and emergency departments in the past 5 years by hospital, in tabular form. - Pat Buckley.

Dear Deputy Buckley

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response. Firstly I would like to apologise for the delay in responding. I wish to advise as follows;

The HSE does not hold the information in the manner requested by the Deputy.

The National Office for Suicide Prevention does not hold the national data on deaths by suicide in general, or more specifically deaths by suicide which have occurred in hospitals or upon a patients discharge from hospital.

When reporting on suicide in Ireland, NOSP cites the Central Statistics Office (CSO) which has responsibility for collating suicide data nationally.

Deaths notified as sudden or unexpected are only deemed suicide after inquest by the coroner and as such cause of death is not confirmed until after inquest. .

As coroners courts determine cause of death as suicide, and the CSO collate such data they may be able to assist further.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JP Nolan'.

JP Nolan
Head of Quality & Service User Safety
Mental Health Division