



# College of Psychiatrists of Ireland

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## **PRESS RELEASE: 5th October, 2018**

**The College of Psychiatrists of Ireland is dismayed that there is no mental health services representation on the newly appointed Sláintecare Implementation Advisory Council announced late Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.**

The College of Psychiatrists intends writing to Minister Harris asking why psychiatry is not represented on the newly formed Sláintecare Advisory Council.

While it is encouraging to see progress on Sláintecare implementation it is very disappointing that psychiatry has not been asked for representation given that many consultant psychiatrists have experience in implementing change in mental healthcare, as per the terms of reference of appointing members to this advisory council (*'The Council has been selected on the basis of their experience and/or expertise in implementing change both within and outside health services, in Ireland and/or internationally'*).

In addition, given that results of [an Ipsos MRBI poll](#) commissioned and published by Mental Health Reform yesterday indicate strong public support for increased State investment in Ireland's mental health services, to exclude representation from mental health services on the council seems to indicate once again the lack of real political will in this area and is not in line with public feeling and belief.

**ENDS**

### **For media queries please contact:**

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### **Notes for the Editor:**

The College of Psychiatrists of Ireland was formed in 2009. It is the professional body for psychiatrists in the Republic of Ireland. The Mission of the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland is to promote excellence in the practice of psychiatry.

The College of Psychiatrists of Ireland is the sole body recognised by the Medical Council and the HSE for the training of doctors to become specialists in psychiatry and for the continuing assurance of the career long competence of specialists in psychiatry. The College supports the delivery of mental health services in line with the recovery model and supports the delivery of the 2006 national policy on mental health services *A Vision for Change* in line with recommendations for adjustment 11 years on.