**Supplementary material**

**Circuit Court reports:**

Of 41 reports prepared at the request of Circuit Courts (including two prepared for the Central Criminal Court), 24 were provided to Dublin Courts and 17 to other Courts in Leinster.

All cases were male. Mean age at time of completion for Circuit Court reports was similar to that for all District Court reports (34 vs. 34 years, t = -0.11, p = 0.91). Rates of homelessness were also similar (44% vs. 48%, Χ2 = 0.18, p = 0.67), however Circuit Court cases were more likely to be charged with a violent offence (56% vs. 23%, Χ2 = 19.86, p <0.001). In relation to historical clinical factors, there were no significant differences between Court and District Court cases. However, Circuit Court cases were less likely to present with active psychotic symptoms during the remand episode (20% vs. 47%, Χ2 = 10.80, p = 0.001).

When compared with District Court cases, Circuit Court cases were less likely to meet criteria for any ICD-10 diagnosis other than a personality disorder, substance misuse problem or no mental illness (34% vs. 64%, Χ2 = 13.32, p < 0.001), and were found to have higher rates of no mental illness (39% vs. 13%, Χ2 = 17.46, p < 0.001).

Regarding clinical outcomes, Circuit Court reports were less likely to be followed by any psychiatric hospital admission (10% vs. 33%, Χ2 = 9.1, p = 0.003) or admission to a general psychiatric hospital (7% vs. 28%, Χ2 = 8.35, p = 0.004). Conversely, Circuit court cases were more likely to be discharged to the prison GP (54% vs. 29%, Χ2 = 9.38, p = 0.002).

Median time from request to delivery of first reports was significantly longer for Circuit Courts when compared with those prepared for District Courts (47 days vs. 13 days, Mann U Whitney Test =1595.5). Mean times to delivery were also longer for Circuit Courts (50.1 days vs 13.9 days, t = -11.81, p < 0.0001).

**Voluntary Court Reports:**

There were 46 voluntary reports submitted by the Cloverhill PICLS service in the years 2015 to 2017, to alert the courts to concerns regarding major mental health issues and disposal outcomes. Of these, 45 were submitted to the District Courts and one to the High Court.

Of the 45 voluntary District Court reports, 85% related to persons with active psychotic symptoms during the remand episode, and 85% met criteria for an ICD-10 diagnosis other than a personality disorder, a substance misuse problem or no mental illness. Of the 45, 71% had a primary diagnosis of ICD-10 Diagnosis F20-39 (schizophreniform and mood disorder), while 16% had a diagnosis of Substance misuse disorder and/or personality disorder without other Axis I diagnosis.

Of the 45 voluntary District Court reports, 69% (31/45) related to people who were subsequently admitted to a psychiatric hospital, all to general psychiatric hospitals and none to the forensic hospital. A further 24% (11/45) had community outpatient follow-up arranged, with two being referred to inreach psychiatry services in receiving prisons and one being discharged to the prison General Practitioner.