



The Regulation and  
Quality Improvement  
Authority

press release

June 2010

## **RQIA publishes review programme for year ahead**

Today, Northern Ireland's independent health and social care regulator, The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA), published its review programme for the year ahead.

Dr Ian Carson, Chairman said: "**As the regulator for health and social care services in Northern Ireland, the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority's (RQIA) carries out a rolling programme of reviews to provide independent assurance about the quality, safety and availability of health and social care services in Northern Ireland.**"

Following the publication of RQIA's Corporate Strategy 2009-12, RQIA has developed a review programme following a consultation with representatives of patients and service users. RQIA's reviews aim to provide an opportunity for quality improvement across the full range of health and social care facilities, and to ensure the rights of all service users are safeguarded.

Glenn Houston, Chief Executive said: "**Current review activity includes subjects such as child protection and GP out-of-hours services, and in the year ahead we will be looking at other important areas including prison healthcare and mixed gender accommodation in hospitals.**"

RQIA's role is to advise the Minister and the public about the quality and availability of health and social care services and the review programme is an important strand of work. RQIA will keep this programme under review to ensure there is the capacity to respond to emerging needs.

RQIA Chief Executive concluded: "**At a time when there are many pressures on services we all must remain focused on improving service quality and through this review programme we believe we can help to ensure that health and social care is delivering effective services for everyone in Northern Ireland.**"

**END**

**For further information:**

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## **Editors' Notes**

### **The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority**

The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority, established in April 2005 under *The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003*, is the independent health and social care regulatory body for Northern Ireland. In its work RQIA encourages continuous improvement in the quality and availability of health and social care services through a programme of inspections and reviews.

### **Review activity 2010-11**

Child Protection

Community Standards for Sensory Impairment

Out-of-Hours Hospital Services

NI Ambulance Service

Mixed Gender Accommodation in Hospitals

Care Management in respect of the NI Single Assessment Tool (NISAT)

Vulnerable Adults

Application of Guidance from the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA)

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS)

Prison Healthcare

GMC Pilot on Revalidation

Infection Control

Food Hygiene and Nutrition

Ongoing Programme of Themed Inspection