



The Regulation and
Quality Improvement
Authority

press release

28 July 2009

Health and Social Care Regulator seeks views on Corporate Strategy

RQIA, the Independent health and social care regulator visited the Tara Centre in Omagh on Tuesday 26th of July to ask local people to comment on their plan for the next three years. Ian Carson, RQIA, Chairman, stated:

We are delighted to be visiting Omagh as the first of four public consultation meetings throughout Northern Ireland and have been pleased by the interest of local people in our work. He added "It is important that RQIA consults with as many people as possible in developing our Corporate Strategy. "

The event was attended by a range of people from the local community, including representatives from the Western Health and Social Care Trust and local independent sector providers. RQIA Chief Executive, Glenn Houston welcomed the contribution of those who attended the event saying:

"I am grateful to the people of Omagh and surrounding areas who took the time to participate in today's event. The contributions made during the workshops will help RQIA to reflect the views of the public in planning our inspection and review programme for the next three years.

Mr Houston provided participants with a comprehensive overview of the role and functions of the organisation, highlighting the RQIA's role in the regulation and inspection of independent sector services, such as Nursing Homes, Residential Homes and Domiciliary Care services as well as in the review of a wide range of Health and Social Care services including, Mental Health and

Learning Disability and Hospital Hygiene Inspections. During workshop sessions, facilitated by Maurice Atkinson, RQIA Director of Corporate Services participants outlined their priorities for health and social care regulation.

The information shared at the Omagh consultation event will be considered along with responses from all other consultation activities and will help RQIA to complete its Corporate Strategy for 2009 -2012.

Mr Houston concluded: "**RQIA is committed to public and stakeholder involvement and I want to encourage all those with an interest in the work of RQIA to respond to our consultation**"

Details of the consultation are available at www.rqia.org.uk or by contacting Maurice Atkinson, Director of Corporate Services on: 028 9051 7480.

END

For further information:

Please contact: Roisin Kelly, RQIA Public Participation Manager,
Tel: 028 9051 7485, or email: Roisin.kelly@rqia.org.uk

Editors' Notes

Series of events:

27 July 2009,	2 - 4 pm	- Tara Centre, Omagh
30 July 2009,	2 - 4pm	- Ballybot House, Newry
3 August 2009,	10am - 12 pm	- NICVA, Belfast
7 August 2009,	10am - 12 pm	- City Hotel, Londonderry

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.