



25 August 2022

## **CONSULTATION: RQIA Seeks Views on New Strategic Plan.**

The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA), Northern Ireland's independent regulator of health and social care services is asking for views from the public on its Draft Strategic Plan.

Speaking at the opening of the 12 week Consultation period today, the RQIA's Chief Executive Briege Donaghy said: **"We want to hear views from the public, and all those we work with, on the core purpose of RQIA, our strategic objectives as Regulator and actions we plan to take to deliver on those objectives. As part of the engagement we want to raise awareness about the role and responsibilities of regulation within the health and social care system.**

**"We very much want to engage with people who use health and social care services and their carers, care professionals, those from health and social care service providers, and the public and to listen to their views and experience. As a result of what we hear and learn, we will review and develop our plans and policies, so that these take account of what is important to people".**

The Authority Chair, Christine Collins, MBE, said

**"Our draft Strategic Plan includes four strategic objectives, focusing on:**

- **Providing an independent view on the quality of health and social care services against required standards through robust regulation.**
- **Improving safety and quality through effective information gathering, involving listening and creating networks to share learning, good practice and adopt improvement**
- **Building relationships and partnerships, and**
- **Informing service transformation by using our findings to influence policy decisions, raise standards and shape future services**

**The Authority, working closely with the Chief Executive and senior team, has reframed RQIA's strategic purpose and direction. Our ambition is to keep people using health and social care services in Northern Ireland safe, focusing on quality and outcomes, and working in partnership, especially with service users and their families."**

The public consultation opens today - 25 August, for a 12-week period, closing on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022. We would encourage anyone with an interest in health and social care services to consider and respond to our consultation proposals, published on our [website](#). You can also join in at an online consultation event; full details of these will be available on our website and promoted via RQIA's Twitter account @RQIANews in the coming weeks.

## **ENDS**

For further information, contact Malachy Finnegan, RQIA Communications Manager, email: [malachy.finnegan@rqia.org.uk](mailto:malachy.finnegan@rqia.org.uk), tel: 028 9536 1921.

## **Notes to Editors**

The RQIA was established by the Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003. RQIA has an overall responsibility to provide independent assurance to the Department on the quality and availability of health and social care in Northern Ireland, and to drive improvement in these services. RQIA works to ensure that everyone in Northern Ireland experiences a better quality of health and social care as a result of RQIA's regulatory actions, inspections, reviews and audits. RQIA strives to ensure care is safe, effective, compassionate and well-led, listening carefully to patients and service users, and working in partnership with providers of services so that they can deliver improved care.