



## **Belfast HSC Trust Children's Service – 30 June 2022**

“During an inspection on 1 April 2022, RQIA identified significant concerns in relation to the poor physical environment and the fire detection system at a registered Children's Services facility in the Belfast Trust area. Access to therapeutic support available to support children living at this home also gave rise to concern. RQIA found that appropriate arrangements were not in place to provide sufficient support, guidance and direction for the staff team; and evidence was not available to provide assurance that children accommodated experienced consistent responses, which were effective and compassionate. Taken together, these factors constituted a serious risk to the care and safety of residents and staff. These findings followed a period of careful monitoring and encouragement for improvement work at the facility.

As a result of these serious concerns, on 8 April 2022 RQIA commenced enforcement action to cancel registration of this service, which took effect on 20 June 2022. The safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children is of paramount importance to RQIA, and throughout this time RQIA worked with the Trust to ensure that alternative, appropriate and safe care was provided for the users of the service.

RQIA is determined that the experiences of service users and their families are heard, and that this informs and drives RQIA's actions. Anyone with a concern about any care service is encouraged to contact RQIA at: telephone: (028) 9536 1990, or email: [info@rqia.org.uk](mailto:info@rqia.org.uk).”

Please note: RQIA has not published the name of this service to protect the privacy of those in its care.”