



The Regulation and
Quality Improvement
Authority

RQIA Corporate Information

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Organisational
Structure

Christine Collins MBE – Chair



Ms Christine Collins MBE retired from the Civil Service in 2005. Since retirement she has focussed on human rights and advocacy, with a particular interest in health and social care, disability, and rare disease. Ms Collins was the founding Chair of the Northern Ireland Rare Disease Partnership; a Patient Public Voice representative on the UK Rare Disease Advisory Group from its inception until April 2018; and is actively involved in the development and implementation of both the UK and Northern Ireland Rare Disease Strategies and Implementation Plans. Ms Collins was a Northern Ireland Human Rights Commissioner from 2011 to 2017. She is a member of the Duty of Candour Work Stream, part of the implementation programme for recommendation arising from the Inquiry into Hyponatremia Related Deaths. She served as Chair of the Patient and Client Council from 2019 to 2022; and was appointed as interim Chair of the RQIA in June 2020. She was appointed as Chair of RQIA on 1 October 2022 for a four-year term.

Prof Stuart Elborn CBE



Professor Stuart Elborn CBE is Professor of Medicine, and Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (interim) at Queen's University. He is responsible for planning, governance and academic performance across the University. His research is focused on improving outcomes in people with chronic lung disease particularly cystic fibrosis and bronchiectasis. Professor Elborn was appointed to the Interim Authority on 30 October 2020. He has been appointed as a Member of the Authority from 1 February 2023 for a four-year term. Professor Elborn chairs the Authority's Business, Appointments and Remuneration Committee (BARC).

Dr Nazia Latif



Dr Nazia Latif has extensive experience of working on human rights and equality issues in Northern Ireland and internationally. She worked for the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission for 13 years where she led systemic investigations, including "In Defence of Dignity", an investigation into the human rights of older people in nursing homes. Dr Latif currently runs Right Practice which specialises in human rights and equality obligations. She is a member of the Northern Ireland Committee of the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and is an Independent Assessor for Diversity Mark. Dr Latif has been appointed as a Member of the Authority on 1 February 2023 for a four-year term.

Dr Mary McIvor



Dr Mary McIvor has recently retired as a civil servant, having worked at senior levels across a range of Departments over the past 30 years. She has a strong working knowledge of policy, public finances, strategy development, economic issues and the delivery of public services. She has a wealth of experience in governance and accountability matters and is CIPFA qualified. Dr McIvor is Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Commission for Victims and Survivors. She is also a school governor with St Dominic's Girls' Grammar School, Belfast. Dr McIvor is also a member of the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) and the Down and Connor Diocesan Education Committee of the CCMS. Dr McIvor has been appointed as a Member of the Authority on 1 February 2023 for a four-year term.

Neil Bodger

Mr Neil Bodger has been involved in international managerial and company finance at senior manager or director level for over 30 years. He is a Non-Executive Independent Board Member with the Department for Communities, and a Member of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland. He was appointed to the Interim Authority on 30 October 2020. Mr Bodger has been appointed as a Member of the Authority from 1 February 2023 for a four-year term. Mr Bodger chairs RQIA's Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC).



Cheryl Lamont CBE DL

Ms Cheryl Lamont, CBE DL is a qualified social worker. She joined the Probation Board for Northern Ireland in 1985 and from 2016 until her retirement in June 2021 was Chief Executive, introducing highly regarded initiatives in collaborative working, innovation and modernisation. Ms Lamont has been appointed as a Member of the Authority from 1 February 2023 for a four-year term.



Alphy Maginness

Mr Alphy Maginness is a qualified solicitor and prior to his retirement in March 2022 was Chief Legal Adviser in what is now the Business Services Organisation (BSO) for 24 years. As a Senior Executive, Mr Maginness also sat on the Board of BSO and was a member of its Senior Management Team, contributing to its overall strategic direction. Mr Maginness has been appointed as a Member of the Authority on 1 February 2023 for a four-year term. Mr Maginness chairs RQIA's Legislative and Policy Committee.



Bronagh Scott

Ms Bronagh Scott is a registered nurse, and during her career she has held executive director of nursing roles in Northern Ireland, England and Wales. In 2015, she was appointed as the nurse adviser to the Expert Independent Panel chaired by Professor Bengoa, tasked with leading an informed debate on the best configuration of Health and Social Care services in Northern Ireland. Ms Scott is a trustee for the charity United Response, which provides community based services for people with learning disability and severe head injuries across England and Wales. In December 2021, Bronagh was appointed as Non-Executive Chair to the Northern Ireland Practice and Education Council for Nursing and Midwifery (NIPEC). Ms Scott was appointed to the Interim Authority on 30 October 2020. She has been appointed to the Authority on 1 February 2023 for a one-year period.



Sarah Wakfer

Mrs Sarah Wakfer has over 18 years' experience in Local Government in England in key roles including Head of Internal Audit and Head of Policy for Arm's Length Bodies; and was responsible for delivering significant transformation programmes. She has five years' experience of carrying out inspections for the Care Quality Commission in England focusing on service users and families. Mrs Wakfer holds a Non-Executive role within the Department of Justice and a public appointment with the Department for Communities. She was appointed in December 2020 as a Director to Ulster Supported Employment Ltd (USEL) and is Vice Chair of its Audit and Risk Committee. Mrs Wakfer has been appointed as a Member of the Authority on 1 February 2023 for a four-year term.



Meet the Senior Management Team



Briege Donaghy – Chief Executive

Elaine Connolly – Director of Adult
Care Services



Emer Hopkins – Director of Hospital Services,
Independent Health Care, Reviews and Audit

Lynn Long – Director of Mental Health &
Learning Disability, Children's Services and
Prison Healthcare



Jacqui Murphy – Head of Corporate Affairs

David McCann – Head of Business Services



Dr Ian Steele – Medical Lead and
Responsible Officer

Karen Harvey – Professional
Advisor for Social Work



Useful Contacts

Office of the Chair
and Chief Executive:

info@rqia.org.uk / (028) 9536 1111

Guidance Team:

If you have a concern or a query about a health and social care service, whether as a member of the public or a service provider, you can contact our Guidance Team:

info@rqia.org.uk / (028) 9536 1990

Registration Team:

registration@rqia.org.uk / (028) 9536 1111

Media Queries:

malachy.finnegan@rqia.org.uk / (028) 9536 1921 or
david.silcock@rqia.org.uk / (028) 9536 1851

RQIA Organisational Structure

