

From The Chief Medical Officer:
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Family Planning Doctors Association (NI)
Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education
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Directors of Nursing at HSS Boards
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Dear Colleague

QUALITY IN FAMILY PLANNING IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Family planning is an important health care service as it contributes to better maternal and child health and to the stability of family life. The attached draft report "Quality in Family Planning in Northern Ireland" sets out proposals for the delivery of a high quality family planning service in Northern Ireland. It has been developed following work undertaken by Dr Margaret Boyle of this Department and Dr Margaret Lyons, then Senior Clinical Medical Officer in North and West Belfast Trust.

This review sought to establish the level of family planning services provided in Northern Ireland, the range of services available and the links between the various providers. It also identifies a number of areas which need to be considered when providing a quality service and makes recommendations which would raise further the standard and quality of the existing services.

This document addresses family planning services in the widest sense but it specifically highlights the needs of young people. This is an important extension of the consultation document "Myths and Reality - Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood". I would welcome any comments you may have on the Report and its recommendations.

I would be grateful if comments could be sent to Dr Boyle by Friday 20 April at the following address: (see next page).

Dr Margaret Boyle
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Thank you for your help and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

DR HENRIETTA CAMPBELL
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER