



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

AN ROINN
**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

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Public Appointments

Chair of the Health and Personal Social Services Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety is seeking to appoint a Chair to the Health and Personal Social Services Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA). The Authority is responsible for monitoring and inspecting the quality of health and social care services in Northern Ireland and promoting and identifying opportunities for improvements in the quality of these services.

The Authority

The RQIA regulates a wide range of health and social care services delivered by both the statutory and the independent sectors. Regulation is based on minimum care standards to ensure that service users know the quality of services to expect and service providers have a benchmark against which they can measure the quality of their services. Those working within the health and social care services will also know what is expected of them in order to assure the quality of the services they are expected to deliver. The RQIA inspects the quality of health and social care services provided by Health & Personal Social Services bodies and service providers. Inspections include reviews of clinical and social care governance arrangements within Health & Personal Social Services bodies.

The Chair

The Chair will lead the development of the RQIA, set the overall strategic direction of the RQIA and promote the organisation with staff, other stakeholders, the public and the media, ensuring effective working relationships within the RQIA and with other bodies. The Chair's key role is to promote public confidence in the RQIA as an organisation committed to high quality services focused on user needs, ensuring that it has integrity and is committed to quality improvement, robust performance assessment and value for money.

Qualifications and Experience

No specific qualifications are required for the post. The successful candidate will have to demonstrate that they have the leadership and management skills to lead the RQIA board and meet the five other essential criteria as set out in the information pack.

The Chair will be expected to devote 2 to 3 days a week to the post for which he/she will receive annual remuneration of £15,938.

Expressions of Interest

For further information about the appointment and to receive a nomination form please contact the Public Appointments Unit, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, D1 Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate, Belfast BT4 3SQ; Tel (028) 9052 3250; Textphone (028) 9052 8343; Fax (028) 9052 3206 or e-mail public.appointments@dhsspsni.gov.uk quoting reference RQIA 1/06.

Information Packs and nomination forms can be provided in other formats and candidates who require assistance will be facilitated on request. Nominees invited for interview will be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable travelling expenses.

Completed nomination forms must be received at the above address by **Friday 3rd February 2006**. Nominations received after this date will not be accepted by the Department.

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process. Political activity will not be a criterion for appointment. The Department is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all nominees. Expressions of interest are welcomed regardless of gender, disability, religion, ethnic origin, political opinion, sexual orientation or whether or not you have dependants. Women are currently under-represented on bodies sponsored by the Department and nominations from women would therefore be particularly welcome.



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