

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY
PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS
BOARD MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL
SERVICES REGULATION & IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety intends to appoint Board Members to the Health and Personal Social Services Regulation and Improvement Authority (HPSSRIA). The Authority will be 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. It will operate in a limited role from April 2004 and formally begin to exercise its functions from April 2005. Members will be appointed with the approval of the Minister responsible for the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety. It is anticipated that appointments will be made during April 2004, to take effect immediately.

The Authority

The HPSSRIA will regulate a wide range of health and social care services delivered by both the statutory and the independent sectors. Regulation will be based on new minimum care standards to ensure that service users know the quality of services to expect and service providers have a benchmark against which to 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 HPSSRIA will inspect the quality of health and social care services provided by Health and Personal Social Services bodies and service providers. Inspections will include reviews of clinical and social care governance arrangements within Health and Personal Social Services bodies.

The Board

The Board, along with senior managers, will develop and establish the HPSSRIA. During a transitional period of about a year, the members will support the Chair in setting the overall strategic direction of the HPSSRIA and promoting the new



organisation with staff, other stakeholders, the public and the media, ensuring effective working relationships within the HPSSRIA and with other bodies.

Once the HPSSRIA is formally established, the Board's key role will be to promote public confidence in the HPSSRIA as an organisation committed to high quality services focused on user needs and to ensure 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. Successful candidates will have to demonstrate that they meet five standard essential criteria, as set out in the Information Pack.

A Board Member will be expected to devote 2 to 3 days per month to the post for which he/she will receive annual remuneration of £5,140.

Expression of Interest

For further information about the appointment and to receive a nomination form please contact Public Appointments Unit, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Block D1, Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SQ, Tel (028) 9052 3250, Textphone (028) 9052 8343, Fax (028) 9052 3206 or e-mail publicappointments@dhsspsni.gov.uk quoting reference **RIA 2/04**. 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 5 pm on Friday, 26 March 2004. 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. 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.

