

TRUST BOARD COVER SHEET

Meeting and Date of meeting	Trust Board Thursday 30 th January 2025	
Title of paper	<i>Trust Board Chair Update</i>	
Accountable Director	Name	Eileen Mullan
	Position	Trust Board Chair
Report Author	Name	Eileen Mullan
	Email	Trust Board Chair
This paper sits within the Trust Board role of:	Accountability	
This paper is presented for:	Discussion	
Links to Trust Corporate Objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unscheduled Care Transformation and Reform
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improved Access to Services
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Focus on developing services provided in the Community
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure Safe Services while delivering financial recovery
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strengthen Financial and Governance Systems
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Digital Readiness
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sustainability of Our Estate
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Embedding Our Co-production Approach
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delivery of Year 3 of Our People Framework



1. Appointment of Non-Executive Directors

Following public appointments process four Non-Executive Directors were Appointed to the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. All four appointments commenced on 1 January 2025 to a date not later than 31 December 2028.

Geraldine Browne

Geraldine has over 35 years' experience in the private sector, mostly in professional services. She worked as a Director with accountancy firms BDONI and PwC specialising in employment taxes, reward and remuneration planning. Her role also included people management and corporate governance.

An experienced leader, she successfully managed large teams and global projects including leading the introduction of the first Higher level professional services Apprenticeship scheme. She was a member of the Expert Panel and the Strategic Advisory forum for the Department of Learning, contributing to the development of apprenticeship strategy in NI. A graduate of Queens University, Geraldine holds a Post graduate Diplomas in both Personnel and Management and Administration and Law.

Alastair Hughes

Alastair's professional background is in Finance, Corporate Services and Governance. He graduated from Queen's University with a degree in economics and subsequently qualified as a Chartered Accountant. His post qualification work focused on the audit and consultancy functions and he was seconded into the banking sector to trial a range of complex reporting systems.

Alastair then joined the NI Civil Service and gained wide experience in public administration, stewardship, efficiency reviews and policy development. He worked in three departments and held senior management positions in two Agencies and an Arm's Length Body.

Prior to retiring he was responsible for delivering programmes arising from the Executive's commitments to promote a culture of lawfulness and increase the participation and influence of women in community development. During this period he also worked closely with a wide range of Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations to simplify their grant application, performance monitoring and approval processes.

Michele Corkey

Michele has over 28 years' experience in various school settings in Northern Ireland. She began her teaching career in the primary sector, progressing to Post Primary education with experience at Middle Leadership, Senior Leadership and Vice Principal level. As Principal for 12 years, she developed high performing schools through effective teamwork, distributed leadership and high-quality staff development. Michele strategically led the successful amalgamation of St Ronan's College in Lurgan, creating one of the largest all ability grammar schools in Northern Ireland.

In 2020 Michele was appointed Director of Education in the Education Authority. As a member of the Corporate Development Team, she was responsible for the strategic leadership of the Education Authority and the Education Directorate leading a wide range of services and support for schools including School Improvement, Area Planning and C2K.

Most recently Michele was appointed Temporary Chairperson to the to the Governing Body of Belfast Metropolitan College and member of the board of Ulster Supported Employment Ltd (USEL).

Chris Stewart

Chris is a partially retired senior civil servant, currently working as a Director in the Executive Office, responsible for the Executive Secretariat, Ministerial Private Offices, and Executive Information Service.

A career civil servant, Chris joined the former Department of Health and Social Services in 1987. His career has included responsibility for policy on: health and social care; education; the economy; and overarching policies such as community relations, human rights, victims of the conflict and children and young people. He has also served as Director of Human Resources in the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister (now the Executive Office) and the Department for Education.

Chris is also as an employer panel member (non-legal) of Industrial Tribunals and Fair Employment Tribunals.

2. Political Update

Since our last Trust Board Meeting Minister for Health undertook visits to Blossom Ward, Regional Diagnostics Centre and Craigavon Emergency Department to gain an insight in the services being delivered and meet and thank the teams.

❖ Ministerial Statements

09 th December 2024	Question Time - Health - Monday 9 December 2024
10 th December 2024	Ministerial Statement - DOH Three Year Plan
15 th January 2025	DOH EIA 2025/2026 Budget

❖ Northern Ireland Assembly Health Committee

• Committee for Health Meeting, Thursday 21 November 2024
• Committee for Health Meeting, Thursday 5 December 2024
• Committee for Health Meeting, Thursday 12 December 2024
• Committee for Health Meeting, Tuesday 7 January 2025
• Committee for Health - Thursday 16 January 2025

❖ Northern Ireland Assembly Health Committee hosted by the Southern Health and Social Care Trust

The Northern Ireland Assembly Health Committee held its committee meeting on the 23rd January in the Southern Trust Boardroom in Monaghan Row Newry. In the morning Committee Members got to meet with staff to understand service provision within the Elective Overnight Care Centre, Ambulatory Care and Acute Care at Home at Daisy Hill Hospital. My thanks to the teams in taking the time to meet with Committee Members and share their experiences.

3. HSC NI Chairs meeting with the Minister of Health

Meeting 18th December areas discussed areas discussed, budget, 3 -year plan, productivity and strategic outcomes framework.

4. Chair and Non-Executive Directors Business and visits

These can be found within the information section at the end of the Trust Board meeting pack.

5. Draft 2025-2026 Budget

The Northern Ireland Executive have agreed a draft budget for 2025/2026.

It is now out for consultation and closes on the 13th March at 6:00pm. Finance Ministers statement and information to support responding to the consultation can be through the following link:

- [Draft Budget 2025-26 Consultation | Department of Finance](#)

6. End Year Accountability Meeting

Catherine Teggart Temporary Accounting Office and I attended the mid-year accountability meeting with the Permanent Secretary on the 17th of December. Areas covered for the Southern Trust were performance, financial position, and the internal control environment.

7. Revised Trust Board Committee Composition

A revised committee composition came into effect from 01st January 2025 in line with the recent non-executive appointments.

Trust Board - Committee Composition January 2025								
		Governance	Audit & Risk Assurance	Finance, Performance & Workforce	Charitable Trust Funds	Patient & Service User Experience	Remuneration & Terms of Service	Strategy and Transformation
Non-Executive Directors	Eileen Mullan (Trust Board Chair)			MEMBER			CHAIR	CHAIR
	Alastair Hughes		MEMBER	CHAIR				
	Michele Corkey (Designated NED for Adoption Panel)		MEMBER		CHAIR			
	Chris Stewart (Designated NED for Safety Champion Maternity)	MEMBER				MEMBER	MEMBER	
	Geraldine Browne	MEMBER			MEMBER	MEMBER		
	Liz Ensor		CHAIR	MEMBER				MEMBER
	Jackie Johnston (Designated NED for whistleblowing)	CHAIR						MEMBER
	Rob Lynas (Designated NED for Medical Appraisal and Revalidation)				MEMBER	CHAIR	MEMBER	
Executive Directors	Chief Executive	MEMBER	<i>In Attendance</i>	MEMBER			<i>In Attendance</i>	MEMBER
	Director of FPE	MEMBER	<i>In Attendance</i>	MEMBER	MEMBER			MEMBER
	Director of NMAHPS, FSS & IPC	MEMBER		MEMBER		MEMBER		MEMBER
	Medical Director	MEMBER						MEMBER
	Director of CYP & SW	MEMBER				MEMBER		
Directors	Director of ACS					<i>In Attendance</i>		
	Director of HROD			<i>In Attendance</i>	<i>In Attendance</i>		<i>In Attendance</i>	<i>In Attendance</i>
	Director of PPI			MEMBER				<i>In Attendance</i>
	Director of SCS				<i>In Attendance</i>			
	Director of MUSC				<i>In Attendance</i>			
	Director of MHLD	<i>In Attendance</i>						
	Programme Director T&I			<i>In Attendance</i>				<i>In Attendance</i>