

COVER SHEET

Meeting and Date of meeting	Trust Board Thursday 03 rd April 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:	Information	
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 Interim Chief Executive

The Southern Trust has successfully appointed Mr Steve Spoerry as Interim Chief Executive. Steve has worked for the English NHS and associated commercial organisations since 1985. He was recently the chief executive of the Royal Free Hospital in London. When he was chief executive of Trafford hospital it significantly improved clinical outcomes; this was recognised by gaining the national medium sized hospital of the year award. He was also asked to assist England's Department of Health make the case for increased funding for discharge from hospital because of the improvements in the area for which he was responsible.

2. Appointment of Permanent Secretary Department of Health

A former senior leader in the NHS in England will take up the role of interim Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health in April.

Mike Farrar will replace current Permanent Secretary Peter May, who is retiring from the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS). Mr Farrar's previous roles in the NHS in England include Chief Executive of the NHS Confederation and Head of Primary Care at the Department of Health in London. He has also been Chief Executive of Health Authorities in Northwest England, Yorkshire, and Tees.

In more recent years, he has worked as a management consultant specialising in healthcare. He has worked with Northern Ireland Health Service leaders and has also worked internationally on healthcare in the Middle East, Japan, Russia, US, Spain and Australia.

3. Outgoing Permanent Secretary Peter May

Peter has dedicated his working life to public service and has made an outstanding contribution to the Northern Ireland Civil Service. In his time as Permanent Secretary for Health, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Peter as Chair of the Trust. I offer my thanks and appreciation to Peter for his unwavering support and guidance.

4. Political Update

Since our last Trust Board Meeting Minister for Health has visited the District Nursing teams to gain insight in the services being delivered.

❖ Ministerial Statements and Question Time

27 th January 2025	Question Time: Health - Monday 27 January 2025
10 th March 2025	Question Time - Health - Monday 10 March 2025 - YouTube
26 th February 2025	Publication of Autism Strategy 2024-2024 Monitoring Report
18 th February 2025	Question Time: Health, Tuesday 18 February 2025
29 th January 2025	RQIA Review of the pathways temporary suspension of the Emergency General Surgery at South West Acute Hospital

❖ Northern Ireland Assembly Health Committee

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health, Thursday 20 March 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health, Thursday 13 March 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health - Thursday 6 March 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health - Thursday 27 February 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concurrent Committee of the Committee for Education and the Committee for Health, 19 February 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health - Thursday 13 February 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health - Thursday 6 February 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee for Health, Thursday 30 January 2025

5. HSC NI Chairs meeting with the Minister of Health

Meeting held on the 05th March. Areas discussed, 25/26 budget, public engagement, partnership agreements, developing approaches to winter pressures and the management of risk across the system.

6. Designated Non-Executive Directors

The following Non-Executives have been assigned to the following designated roles:

- Jackie Johnston – Designated Non-Executive for Whistleblowing
- Chris Stewart, Designated Non-Executive Safety champion for Maternity
- Michele Corkey, Designated Non -Executive for Adoption Panel
- Rob Lynas, Designated Non-Executive for Medical Appraisal and Revalidations

7. 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.