



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

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20 October 2015

Dear Richard,

**Public Accounts Committee Evidence Session – Request for Follow Up
Information**

I wish to thank you, Dr Paddy Woods and Ms Julie Thompson for attending the Public Accounts Committee meeting on Wednesday, 16 September. The meeting was extremely beneficial in providing the opportunity to discuss concerns and issues arising from the NIAO General Report on the Health and Social Care Sector 2012-13 and 2013-14.

A number of points were raised during the session and I write to request some additional information.

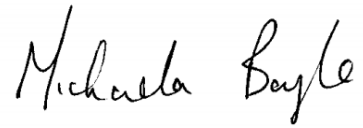
- Could you explain why during March 2015 only 27% of urgent breast cancer referrals in the Belfast Trust were seen within 14 days? This is well below the target that every urgent breast cancer referral be seen within 14 days which appears to have been substantially met by the other four Trusts.
- Could you provide the Committee with a summary of the controls which the Department has in place to mitigate the risk that consultants may be incentivised to cancel public patient treatments to boost demand for their private patient treatments?

If you are responding by email please use the email address above.

Please highlight in your response any redactions or restrictions on information that you provide to the Committee as this will be published as part of our inquiry.

I would request a response on the above issues by **3 November 2015**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michaela Boyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'l' of 'Boyle'.

Michaela Boyle
Chairperson
Public Accounts Committee