

**From the Permanent Secretary
and HSC Chief Executive**



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Máinnystrie O Poustie

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Dear Cheryl

MEMORANDUM OF REPLY: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Thank you for your letter dated 20 September 2024, following the Committee's meeting of 19 September, during which the Department's Memorandum of Reply: Mental Health Service in Northern Ireland was reviewed. As requested in the Committee's response, I am pleased to submit the first quarterly update in respect of December 2024, attached.

You had specifically inquired about what is being done in relation to data recording and analysis to account for spending in the current year. I can confirm that in respect of those Actions in the Mental Health Strategy which have been allocated funding, action owners monitor spend and submit quarterly updates to the Mental Health Directorate, alongside their progress updates on the Delivery Plan commitments for the year. Any underspend is identified and, for example, in the current year, a small amount of underspend across Actions has been reallocated to other mental health service activity, in order to ensure that the funding provided is maximized.

I trust that this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

PETER MAY

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