



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

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16 May 2025

Dear Mike,

**MEMORANDUM OF REPLY: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Following the Committee's consideration of your response dated 25 April 2025, regarding the Memorandum of Reply of 8 August 2024, Members would be grateful for a further update on several areas of concern, with an emphasis on clarity around progress and timescales.

**Encompass and Service Mapping**

The Committee remains deeply concerned about delays to the Encompass rollout and the potential impact on mental health service delivery. Please clarify the timescales for completing priority works that have been delayed as a result. Additionally, was the mapping of services within the Western Health and Social Care Trust completed in March 2025 as planned?

**Data and Evaluation**

We would be grateful if you could provide:

- The commentary on data and trends in failed CAMHS referrals expected from SPPG by 31 March 2025 (Recommendation 7);
- An update on actions being taken to address mental health waiting times following the meetings held between SPPG and Trusts in early May (Recommendation 9);
- Details of timescales and measures in place to minimise delays in the evaluation of pilot schemes (Recommendation 10).

### **Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

Please provide:

- An update on the planned public consultation on the Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Framework (Recommendation 8);
- Details arising from the April 2025 meeting of the working group on Recommendation 12, including any indicative timescales for the associated work;
- A copy of the report on engagement with the Community and Voluntary Sector, which we understand is due for completion in June 2025 (Recommendation 13).

### **General Update**

Finally, the Committee has requested a further update on all remaining recommendations in three months' time.

Yours sincerely,



**Daniel McCrossan**  
**Chairperson**  
**Public Accounts Committee**