

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



Mr William Humphrey MLA MBE
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Dear William

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE EVIDENCE SESSION RE NIAO REPORT ON
ADDICTION SERVICES – 21 OCTOBER 2021**

Thank you for your letter of 11 August confirming the Committee's Evidence session on Thursday 21 October 2021, at 2:15 pm in Parliament Buildings. I can confirm that Professor Sir Michael McBride, Chief Medical Officer and I will be attending.

Seven of the ten NIAO reports recommendations relate either partially or substantially to the operational work of the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) and the Health and Social Care Trusts. Brendan Whittle, Director of Social Care and Children from the HSCB has confirmed that he also will attend the evidence session so that operational matters can be addressed.

As requested contact details for those attending are given below and I attach the short bios for Michael, Brendan and myself at **Appendix 1**.

Richard Pengelly
Permanent Secretary
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If there are any changes to this line up or any other supporting staff are required from either the Department of HSCB we will let you know closer to the evidence session.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Pengelly', is positioned above the printed name.

RICHARD PENGELLY
ACCOUNTING OFFICER

RICHARD PENGELLY



Richard Pengelly was appointed as the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health, on 1st July 2014. Prior to this Richard's previous post was as the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Regional Development (DRD)

Richard is a Chartered Accountant, and before joining the Department for Finance and Personnel in 1998 he worked in the Northern Ireland Audit Office and in private accounting practice. He also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Administration from Warwick University.

As Accounting Officer and Chief Executive he oversees the business of DoH, which comprises:

- Health and Personal Social Services, which includes policy and legislation for hospitals, family practitioner services, community health and personal social services;
- Public Health, which covers responsibility for policy and legislation to promote and protect the health and well-being of the population of Northern Ireland; and
- Public Safety, which encompasses responsibility for the policy and legislation for the Fire Authority, food safety and emergency planning.

BIOGRAPHY FOR PROFESSOR SIR MICHAEL McBRIDE



Prof Sir Michael McBride was appointed to the post of Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health, in September 2006.

Prior to joining the department he had been Medical Director at the Royal Group of Hospitals from August 2002.

Prof Sir Michael McBride graduated with Distinction from Queen's University Belfast in 1986 and completed his undergraduate and postgraduate training in Northern Ireland. In 1991 he attained a Research Fellowship at St Mary's Medical School and Imperial College London, where he carried out research into new drug treatments for HIV.

Prof Sir Michael McBride has been a Consultant in the Health Service since 1994 when he was appointed Consultant Physician in HIV medicine at the Royal Group of Hospitals and has more than 10 years health service management experience.

He has a longstanding interest in continuing medical education and was Postgraduate Clinical Tutor in the Royal Group of Hospitals between 1996 and 2000 and Director of Education in the Royal Hospitals from 2000.

As Medical Director at the Royal Hospitals, he contributed to strategic change at trust, regional and national level. As the Trust lead for clinical and social care governance, he had responsibilities for all aspects of clinical quality and patient safety.

Prof Sir Michael McBride took up the post of Chief Medical Officer during a time of significant change for Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland with responsibilities for Policy and Strategy in relation to Public Health, Quality and Safety and Research and Development. He also provides strategic advice to Minister and other Government departments on health related matters. He has been closely involved in the development of the new Health and Social Care structures, post Review of Public Administration, including the establishment of the Public Health Agency. Prof Sir Michael McBride currently leads in the work to transform health and social services in Northern Ireland in line with Health and Wellbeing 2026 – Delivering Together.

At the request of the Health Minister Prof Sir Michael McBride took up the post of Chief Executive of Belfast Health and Social Care Trust from December 2014 to February 2017. He combined this role with Chief Medical Officer. As Chief Executive Prof Sir Michael McBride was head of an integrated health and social care Trust which provided hospital-based and social care services to the population of Belfast, as well as most of Northern Ireland's regional specialist services. He had responsibility for key Ministerial priorities, corporate responsibility for the Trust's 20,000 employees, and overseen the Trust's annual budget of almost £1.3bn.

Prof Sir Michael McBride was knighted in Her Majesty's 2021 Birthday Honours for services to public health in Northern Ireland. He was awarded a Professorship in Public Health Practice from Queens University Belfast in 2021 for services to Public Health.

BRENDAN WHITTLE

Director of Social Care and Children, HSCB

Brendan Whittle was appointed as HSCB Director of Social Care and Children and Executive Director of Social Work in April 2021.

Previously Brendan has held senior positions in the HSC, including as a Director at South Eastern HSC Trust between 2012 and 2019. He initially served as Director of Adult Services and Prison Healthcare and subsequently as Director of Children's Services & Executive Director of Social work.