

**Policy Forum for Northern Ireland keynote seminar:
Next steps for mental health policy in Northern Ireland**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 14th December 2023

*****Taking place online*****



Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Pádraig Delargy MLA, Chairperson of the All Party Group on Mental Health, Sinn Féin
- 9.05 **Assessing key priorities for improving mental health service provision**
Professor Siobhan O'Neill, Mental Health Champion for Northern Ireland; and Professor of Mental Health Sciences, Ulster University
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 Break
- 9.40 **Improving service provision - challenges and priorities for targeted prevention and early intervention, enhancing care in the community, addiction services, and crisis support**
Sheena McMullen, Campaigns, Advocacy and Policy Advisor, Action for Children
Gary McMichael, Chief Executive, Ascertainment NI
Ed Sipler, Health Development Specialist, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
- 10.00 **Listening to the voices of lived experience to inform future policy direction**
Matthew Taylor, 'Co-Founder of UK's first youth-led mental health charity'
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Pádraig Delargy MLA, Chairperson of the All Party Group on Mental Health, Sinn Féin
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Deborah Erskine MLA, Vice-Chair, All Party Group on Mental Health, Democratic Unionist Party
- 11.00 **Developing CAMHS provision - improving access and developing services for students through the education pathway, support at university and transitioning to adult services, and effective care outside of a CAMHS setting**
David Babington, Chief Executive, Action Mental Health
Stephen Dallas, Chief Executive Officer, The Bytes Project
Ian Power, Chief Executive Officer, Spunout
Martha Campbell, Family Therapy Lead, Belfast CAMHS
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Support for the workforce to meet the aims of the Mental Health Strategy - priorities for recruitment, training and retention, workplace support and professional development, and the role of voluntary and unpaid carers in service provision**
Dr Stephen Moore, Vice Chair, Royal College of Psychiatrists
Briege Quinn, Chair, RCN Northern Ireland Board
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.20 Break
- 12.25 **The way forward for mental health services in Northern Ireland**
Peter May, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Deborah Erskine MLA, Vice-Chair, All Party Group on Mental Health, Democratic Unionist Party
Tiernan Phipps, Lead Researcher, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland