

## Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together

### Introduction

Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together was launched on 25 October 2016, setting out the Minister's vision for the transformation of Health and Social Care in the North. Her vision was based on the report of the Expert Panel, led by Professor Rafael Bengoa, which was published on the same day.

If we are to address the considerable challenges facing the health and social care system, we must build on reform which has taken place in the past, and achieve whole system transformation. Delivering Together is the only roadmap for reform, and it will only be by working together that it will be achievable.

### Ambition

Aligned with the aspirations of the Executive set out in the draft Programme for Government, the overarching ambition in Delivering Together is for every person in the North to lead long, healthy and active lives. Underpinning this ambition are four key aims, namely:

- to improve the health of the population;
- to improve the quality and experience of care;
- to ensure the sustainability of the services delivered; and
- to support and empower the staff delivering health and social care services.

A model of person-centred care will focus on prevention, early intervention and supporting independence and wellbeing. This will enable the focus of HSC services to move from the treatment of periods of acute illness and reactive crisis approaches, towards a more holistic approach to health and social care where people are supported to stay healthy, well and safe in the first place. To do so we must work across traditional boundaries.

### Changes to our services

There are four key ways in which the delivery of care will change. We must

- **Build capacity in communities and in prevention** to reduce inequalities and ensure the next generation is healthy and well.
- **Provide more support in primary care** to enable more preventive and proactive care, and earlier detection and treatment of physical and mental health problems.
- **Reform our community and hospital services** so that they are organised to provide care when and where it is needed.
- **Organise ourselves to deliver** by ensuring that the administrative and management structures make it easier for staff to look after the public, patients and clients.

### Approach

How we plan, design, support and implement service transformation is as important as the changes we wish to make. That is why the Delivering Together document sets out the approach we wish to take to transformation to ensure it is sustainable in the long run. Key principles include:

- Partnership working and co-production with those who use and those who deliver services.
- A focus on integrating quality and safety improvement into the work of every HSC organisation.
- Investing in our workforce and becoming an employer of choice and supporting the health and wellbeing of staff.
- Developing a new culture of collaboration, collective leadership and empowerment
- Making best use of technology.