

 Belfast Health and Social Care Trust caring supporting improving together		Paper Ref. Num. 2026.06.25_TBP_AgendaItem7.2_P219-2026AStatutoryFunctionsReport <i>Note:- To be completed by HQ meeting organiser</i>
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust Meeting Template Sheet (v050526)		
Title of paper (Maximum of 300 characters) Trust Statutory Function Reporting and Corporate Parenting Report 1st April 2025-31st March 2026		
Purpose of paper		For Approval
If other purpose please specify	To present to Trust Board the Regional Reporting Template for Annual Social Care and Children's Directed Statutory Functions Report: 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.. - All Division Report -RESW Report This is a Statutory Report and the mechanism by which the Trust reports compliance with Directed Statutory Functions to SPPG and DOH. At the end of the reporting year the Trust is required to submit a report to SPPG in relation to the Trust performance with compliance with Statutory Functions and Corporate Parenting responsibilities. A separate report is also provided for the Regional Emergency Social Work Service for which the Trust has management responsibility. This is a prescribed report and template, which considers the delivery of services within the Statutory and Legal Frameworks.	
Meeting Choose an item.		
If other meeting please specify	Please enter text here	
Rationale for confidential consideration (if applicable)		
Presenter	Kerrylee Weatherall	Enter Other Presenter Name Here
Date of meeting	25 th June 2026	
Background (Maximum of 1500 characters)		

The draft report was submitted to SPPG on the 8th May 2026 and was approved at the Social Care Steering Group for Adults on 12th May 2025 and Children's Social Care Steering Group on the 18th May 2025 and is being presented to Trust Board for final approval.

The report provides an overview of the Trust's discharge of Delegated Directed Statutory Functions and Corporate Parenting (CC3/02) in respect of services delivered by the Social Work and Social Care Workforce for the period 1st April 2025-31st March 2026 with assurance arrangements underpinning the delivery of these services and levels of compliance with the standards specified in the Scheme for the Delegation of Statutory Functions. On-going and future challenges in the provision of such services are highlighted.

There have been significant challenges for the Trust in its delivery of services during this reporting period, as services respond to continued and increased demand and operate in the context of high staff vacancies and ongoing industrial action. The Trust have made SPPG aware in advance that the implementation Encompass in this reporting year continues to impact on data collection and work is in progress to address these issues.

The body of the report provides detailed commentary on the levels of compliance and of challenges in relation to the delivery of statutory services in the following key areas:

- Service Delivery/Timely service provision
- Increased Demand and Workforce Capacity
- Children's Community Services
- Statutory Reviews
- Domiciliary care provision
- Carers assessment
- Adult Safeguarding
- Regional bed pressures and ASW service
- Muckamore Abbey Hospital resettlement

The Trust has reported that the safe discharge of statutory functions remains a priority and partial compliance has been achieved with the requirements specified in the Scheme for Delegation, within the context of decreased workforce capacity, increased demand for services and the resources available. Attached is a one page summary of the risks and mitigation in each of the service areas. The final report will be reviewed with SPPG on 26th June 2026 and an action plan agreed.

Date considered at Exec Team (If Applicable)

N/A

Options for consideration (Maximum of 1500 characters)
N/A

Recommendations (Maximum of 1500 Characters)

Trust Board endorsement of report.

Proposed Onward Consideration

Other

If other

Report again at mid year for CCS and annually for Trust Wide on progress with action plan.

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Note:-

Any papers accompanying this template should not exceed 10 pages in length.

Please ensure when submitting papers that

- (1) Orientation of paper is set so that the content of the paper can be read***
- (2) Embedded documents should be [provided a separate attachments***
- (3) Append any papers to this coversheet starting on the next page***

Insert/Copy/Paste any additional information from this point