

## Legislative Overview of Health and Social Care Structures

The overarching structure of the existing integrated system of health and social care was initially introduced in the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (SI 1972/1265 (NI 14)). Article 16 of this Order provided the Department with the powers to establish, on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1972, four health and social services boards (SR 1972 No. 217):

- Northern Health and Social Services Board
- Southern Health and Social Services Board
- Western Health and Social Services Board
- Eastern Health and Social Services Board

Using powers in the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 (SI 1992/194 (NI 1)), nineteen health and social services trusts, providing hospital and community services or ambulance services, were established on a phased basis from 1992 to 1998:

Trust	Establishment date	Legislation	HSS Board area
Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospital Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr 1992	SR 1992 No. 98	Eastern
Belfast City Hospital Health and Social Services Trust	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1992	SR 1992 No. 490	Eastern
Craigavon Area Hospital Group Health and Social Services Trust	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1992	SR 1992 No. 491	Southern
Green Park Health and Social Services Trust	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1992	SR 1992 No. 492	Eastern
<i>The Eastern Ambulance Service Health and Social Services Trust<sup>1</sup></i>	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1992	SR 1992 No. 493	<i>Eastern</i>
Ulster, North Down and Ards Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust <sup>2</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1992	SR 1992 No. 494	Eastern
North and West Belfast Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept 1993	SR 1993 No. 352	Eastern
South and East Belfast Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept 1993	SR 1993 No. 353	Eastern

<sup>1</sup> On 1<sup>st</sup> April 1995 this trust was dissolved (see SR 1995 No. 142) and its functions undertaken by the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Services Trust (see SR 1995 No. 143)

<sup>2</sup> On 1<sup>st</sup> April 1998 this trust was dissolved (see SR 1998 No. 122) and replaced by the Ulster Community and Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust (see SR 1998 No. 121)

Trust	Establishment date	Legislation	HSS Board area
Down Lisburn Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept 1993	SR 1993 No. 355	Eastern
Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1993	SR 1993 No. 455	Southern
Craigavon and Banbridge Community Health and Social Services Trust	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1993	SR 1993 No. 456	Southern
Mater Infirmorum Hospital Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar 1994	SR 1994 No. 67	Eastern
Causeway Health and Social Services Trust	11 <sup>th</sup> Jan 1995	SR 1995 No. 6	Northern
Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr 1995	SR 1995 No. 143	Regional
Armagh and Dungannon Health and Social Services Trust	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1995	SR 1995 No. 351	Southern
United Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust	9 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1995	SR 1995 No. 421	Northern
Altnagelvin Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust	9 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1995	SR 1995 No. 422	Western
Foyle Health and Social Services Trust	9 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1995	SR 1995 No. 423	Western
Homefirst Community Health and Social Services Trust	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 1996	SR 1996 No. 20	Northern
Sperrin Lakeland Health and Social Services Trust	25 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1996	SR 1996 No. 116	Western

### Review of Public Administration

On 1 August 2006, under the Review of Public Administration, 5 new trusts were established, to run in a shadow form with the existing hospital and community trusts. These new trusts remained co-terminous with the existing health boards:

*Eastern HSS Board* Belfast Health and Social Services Trust (SR 2006 No. 292)  
 South Eastern Health and Social Services Trust (SR 2006 No. 293)  
*Southern HSS Board* Southern Health and Social Services Trust (SR 2006 No. 294)  
*Northern HSS Board* Northern Health and Social Services Trust (SR 2006 No. 295)  
*Western HSS Board* Western Health and Social Services Trust (SR 2006 No. 296)

The 18 previous hospital and community trusts were subsequently dissolved on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 (SR 2007 No. 132).

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust was unaffected by this change.

RPA led to further restructuring in 2009, with the necessary legislative changes brought forward in the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009 (c.1 (NI)). This provided for a number of structural changes, which took effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April of that year. Existing health boards were dissolved (section 1 of the Act), with their functions transferred to, and separated between, the Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well-being (health improvement and health protection functions) and the Regional Health and Social Care Board (other functions) (section 24 of the Act).