

# The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Ms Olive Macleod  
Chief Executive  
RQIA  
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Our Ref: BC-0232-16

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Dear Ms Macleod,

Thank you for your letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> July. I would be grateful for your clarification on the following issues:

1. Serious Adverse Incidents

- a) You have described work in this area as being an ongoing project. Please advise when this project started, which team in RQIA is responsible for it and what stage that work has currently reached.
- b) The RQIA report of December 2014 flagged issues with reporting of HSC Trusts Interface Incidents i.e. where one Trust anticipates or expects another to initiate an investigation. Identification of this as an issue of concern post-dates the last guidance issues by HSCB in October 2013. What steps, if any, has RQIA taken to propel change/improvement regarding this matter?

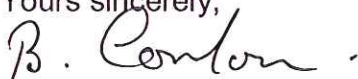
2. Meetings between RQIA and Department of Health Sponsor Branch

Please provide copies of the agendas for these meeting since November 2013 to date.

3. Whistleblowers

What are the reasons for not taking forward in NI, the concept recommended by the Francis Review, of a whistle-blowing guardian?

Yours sincerely,



Bernie Conlon  
Secretary to the Inquiry

**Secretary:** Bernie Conlon

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