

**NICON23: *Possibility out of Pressure?***  
**18-19 October 2023 | La Mon Hotel and Country Club**  
 Virtual Agenda: Livestreamed via [MedAll.org](https://www.MedAll.org)

| Day 1 – Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October |  |
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| 08.45 – 09.30                              | <b>Optional Networking</b>   |
| 09.30 – 09.40                              | <b>Welcome and Opening Address</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mark Carruthers</b>, Broadcaster (Compère)</li> <li>• <b>Michael Bloomfield</b>, Chief Executive, NI Ambulance Service (NIAS); Chair, NI Confederation for Health and Social Care (NICON)</li> </ul>  |
| 09.40 – 10.00                              | <b>Department of Health System Priorities</b> <p>As we work together in deeply challenging times to deliver the vision set out in <i>Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together</i>, to open conference, we will hear about the vision and ask of the system at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peter May</b>, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health</li> </ul>   |
| 10.00 – 10.30                              | <b>At 75: Glimpses of the Future for the NHS?</b> <p>The HSC is not alone in facing significant pressures. As we mark the 75th anniversary of the NHS and approach the General Election, there is no let-up in the discussion about the future of health and care services. In this session, we explore the learning for the HSC and consider how it can be applied in the current NI context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lord Victor Adebawale</b>, Chair, NHS Confederation</li> <li>• <b>Siva Anandaciva</b>, Chief Analyst, King’s Fund</li> </ul>  |
| 10.30 – 11.15                              | <b>Possibility out of Pressure: Our ‘Can-Do’ System Agenda?</b> <p>Although we cannot underestimate the dual challenge of budgetary constraints and rising demand, in this session, we will hear insights from health and care leaders on some of the key opportunities and programmes underway that will enable us to drive system-wide change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sharon Gallagher</b>, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG), Department of Health</li> <li>• <b>Dan West</b>, Chief Digital Information Officer, Department of Health</li> <li>• <b>Jennifer Welsh</b>, Chief Executive, Northern HSC Trust</li> <li>• <b>Peter Toogood</b>, Deputy Secretary, Social Care Policy, Department of Health</li> <li>• <b>Ruth Sutherland</b>, Chair, Patient and Client Council (PCC)</li> </ul> |
| 11.15 - 11.45                              | <b>Optional Networking Break</b>   |
| 11.45 – 12.45                              | <b>Parallel session: HSC Hospital Reconfiguration Blueprint: Building Consensus, Focusing on Action</b> <p>In the summer of 2022, former Health Minister Robin Swann announced his intention to publish a plan for reshaping the design of our hospital care system, building on clinically led service reviews and key</p>  |

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|              | <p>strategies already in place. Despite the absence of Ministers, as we begin to experience more unplanned service changes across our system, this ongoing work on a Hospital Reconfiguration Blueprint is more important than ever. Join us for this session to explore how we can build professional and public consensus and move forward on this essential, but often controversial agenda.</p> <p><b>Session Chair: Danny Mortimer</b>, Chief Executive, NHS Employers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peter Jakobsen</b>, Director, Health Service Transformation, Department of Health</li> <li>• <b>Dr Cathy Jack</b>, Chief Executive, Belfast HSC Trust</li> <li>• <b>Dr Tony Stevens</b>, Co- chair, Task and Finish Group - Hospital Reconfiguration</li> <li>• <b>Peter McBride</b>, Co-chair, Task and Finish Group - Hospital Reconfiguration</li> </ul> |
| 12.45 – 3.30 | <b>Non-streamed sessions (virtual interval)</b>   |
| 3.30 – 4.00  | <p><b>Innovation Heroes: Finding Possibility</b></p> <p>Building on his experience internationally, health and care system leader Mike Farrar talks to a range of colleagues working against the odds to do extraordinary things to bring change in the health and social care system. We explore how they come up with ideas and what they do next to realise their vision. What could we achieve if we all focused a bit more on innovation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mike Farrar</b>, NHS System Leader</li> <li>• <b>Prof Stuart Elborne</b>, Provost and Deputy Vice Chancellor, QUB</li> <li>• <b>Daniel Crawford</b>, Founder, Axial3D</li> <li>• <b>Jennifer Neff</b>, Co-Founder and Managing Director, Access Elemental</li> </ul>   |
| 4.00 – 4.25  | <p><b>Creative and Collaborative Leadership: Building a Public Sector Wide Approach to Health and Wellbeing?</b></p> <p>In the current political environment, we ask two system leaders to set out their ideas and ambitions for how we can build different approaches to delivering better outcomes for our population, on both a practical and aspirational level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matthew Taylor</b>, Chief Executive, NHS Confederation</li> <li>• <b>Dr Jayne Brady</b>, Head of the NI Civil Service</li> </ul>   |
| 4.25 – 4.55  | <p><b>Saving Millions While Saving Lives</b></p> <p>Tim Briggs is renowned for having conceived and developed the 'Getting it Right First Time' (GIRFT) programme to review elective orthopaedic surgery and address a range of observed and undesirable variations in orthopaedics. In 2017, he notoriously said that the NHS did not deserve more money until it put its own house in order and implemented changes that would improve care.</p> <p>Join us for our final session of day 1 as Tim shares his personal story, from clinician to national director working to secure system improvement, drive value and save lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Tim Briggs</b>, Chair, 'Getting it Right First Time' (GIRFT) programme; National Director for Clinical Improvement and Elective Recovery, NHS England</li> </ul>                              |
| 4.55 – 5.00  | <p><b>Close of Day 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Michael Bloomfield</b>, Chief Executive, NIAS; Chair, NICON</li> <li>• <b>South Eastern HSC Trust 'Harmony in Health' Choir</b></li> </ul>   |

| <b>Day 2 – Thursday 19 October</b> |  |
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| <b>08.30 – 09.30</b>               | <b>Optional Networking</b>   |
| 09.30 – 09.35                      | <b>Welcome Remarks: Day Two</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jonathan Patton</b>, Vice Chair, NICON; Chair, South Eastern HSC Trust</li> </ul>  |
| 09.35 – 10.05                      | <b>Integrated Care System NI: The Power of Integration</b><br>As we move closer to the implementation of ICS NI, we take the opportunity to explore the power and the potential of true integration and reflect on the opportunities we have both within HSC and with our wider partners to reshape how we think about the health and wellbeing of our population. With a pilot Area Integrated Partnership Board now up and running, in this session you will hear from key constituents of the ICS on what they can bring to the new way of working and the potential that can be realised from the partnership approach.<br><br><b>Session Chair: Mike Farrar</b> , NHS System Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Martina Moore</b>, Programme Director, Integrated Care System NI, Department of Health</li> <li>• <b>Dr Maria O’Kane</b>, Chief Executive, Southern HSC Trust</li> <li>• <b>Joe McVey</b>, Chief Executive, Brain Injury Matters; Chair, CO3 Health Special Interest Group</li> <li>• <b>Dr Frances O’Hagan</b>, GP, The Friary Surgery</li> <li>• <b>Louise Moore</b>, Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council; Society of Local Government Chief Executives (SoLACE)</li> </ul> |
| 10.05 – 10.40                      | <b>Primary Care: Looking to the Future</b><br>Primary care is a key part of our entire system, yet issues such as workforce and rising demand appear intractable impacting the entirety of our service provision. Given the growing recognition for the need for innovation and new approaches, in this session we hear the emerging thinking in primary care in an international and national context and we consider how we are responding to these challenges in Northern Ireland. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Karen Kirkham</b>, Chief Medical Officer, Lead Clinical Partner, Deloitte</li> <li>• <b>Ruth Rankine</b>, Director, Primary Care Network, NHS Confederation</li> <li>• <b>Gearóid Cassidy</b>, Director of Primary Care, Department of Health</li> </ul>  |
| <b>10.40 – 11.00</b>               | <b>Optional Networking Break</b>   |
| 11.10 – 12.10                      | <b>Parallel session: Positive Deviants Making a Positive Impact</b><br>The HSC Leadership Centre will team up with Helen Bevan to consider how we nurture and empower ‘positive deviants’ to make an impact. Helen will initially invite us to understand what we can learn from these "positive deviants" whose exceptional behaviours and change practices enable them to get better results than their peers with the exact same resources. We will also hear three stories from participants on our Leadership Programmes of how they have made an impact. The session will conclude with some group reflection on how we can apply the learning.<br><br><b>Session Chair: Diane Taylor</b> , Head, HSC Leadership Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Helen Bevan</b>, Professor of Practice in Health &amp; Care Improvement, Warwick Business School, University of Warwick</li> <li>• <b>Paula O’Kelly</b>, Assistant Head, HSC Leadership Centre</li> </ul>   |

|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Showcase members</b></li> </ul>   |
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| 12.10-1.10 | <p><b>72,000 Change Agents: It's Up to Us</b></p> <p>A key theme throughout the conference is how we create possibility together out of pressure. In this session, Helen Bevan will explore some of the latest ideas, tools, and approaches from leading practitioners of large-scale change around the globe to give us some fresh perspective on our situation. We will reflect on the practical implications and opportunities for our work in a world where the balance between “old power” leadership (positional power and authority) and “new power” (networks, shared purpose, and mobilising for change) is shifting. Helen will also cover how to build our individual and collective power to create change and deliver results in this shifting landscape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Helen Bevan</b>, Professor of Practice in Health &amp; Care Improvement, University of Warwick</li> </ul> |
| 1.10-1.15  | <p><b>Close of Conference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Michael Bloomfield</b>, Chief Executive, NIAS; Chair, NICON</li> </ul>  |