HSC Safety Forum / HSCQI Office

Public Health Agency

12-22 Linenhall Street

Belfast BT2 8BS

24th January 2019

Patients, Clients and Carers

Northern Ireland

Dear Patient, Client or Carer

**Re: Opportunity for a funded place to attend and participate in the International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare, Central Glasgow, UK Thursday 28th and Friday 29th March 2019**

As we strive to continuously improve our health and social care services in Northern Ireland, strengthening the patient, client and carer voice and improving our collaboration together remains an important priority.

As a result I would like to invite you to complete a short application process for one of three regionally funded places available to attend the International Forum on Safety and Quality referenced above. Funds will cover the 2 day delegate fees, flights and accommodation and reasonable expenses such as food, non-alcoholic drinks and public transport fares.

The annual Forum is designed to bring together a diverse group of people from chief executives, government officials, healthcare managers, patients, clients and carers and frontline clinical and support staff. These groups all share a concern and a passion for improving quality and safety in healthcare and participate in taking part in sessions that range from quality improvement methods to the latest thinking in how to improve quality and safety. Further details and the programme can be found on the website <https://internationalforum.bmj.com/glasgow/>.

Attached is the short application form and support in completing this is available from the Safety Forum office team who can also be reached by telephone on 028 9536 1410. Applications must be received by email or post by Friday the 8th February 2019 at 4pm to [joanne.mccloskey@hscni.net](mailto:joanne.mccloskey@hscni.net) or via the address above.

In the event of more than 3 suitable applicants, priority will be given (in descending order) to evidence of 1. Confirmed acceptance for a poster/presentation at the IHI/BMJ Glasgow Forum, 2. Membership of the Q Community, 3. Participation in the patient/client GREAT checklist for quality improvement, 4. Those who have not previously attended the International Forum, 5. Random ballot if more than 3 suitable applicants still remain after these 4 steps.

Successful applicants are expected to be notified the week beginning the 18th February to enable transport and accommodation to be tailored best around facilitating your participation.

At this stage there are no specific expectations upon the successful applicant’s return to Northern Ireland after the Conference but is it hoped the opportunity for future collaboration and input will be enhanced for the benefit of all who work and use our health and social care services in Northern Ireland.

Yours

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Mark Roberts

Clinical Director for the HSC Safety Forum