



Subject:	Correspondence received from the Department of Health
Date:	5th April, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To note the correspondence received from the Department of Health in response to the queries raised by the Committee regarding GP indemnity in Northern Ireland.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• note the correspondence as set out in the report and to consider if any further action is necessary.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.2	<p>The Committee, at its Special meeting in February, received a presentation from the Strategic Planning and Performance Group of the Department of Health in relation to GP Services in Belfast. During discussion, concerns were raised regarding the disparity in Northern Ireland, where GPs were the only GPs in the UK who paid their own indemnity costs, which increased the more hours in which they worked. The Committee agreed that it would write to the Permanent Secretary to request an update on the work being undertaken to resolve GP indemnity in Northern Ireland, together with the following questions which had been added by the Council at its meeting on 1st March:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What mitigation measures were being taken to try and address the number of GPs leaving the Health Services?; and • What measures were being taken to try and increase the number of medical students year on year?
3.3	<p>Accordingly, Democratic Services wrote to the Permanent Secretary to request an update on the matter and a response has been received at Appendix 1 for consideration.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1- DoH GP Indemnity Response 290323