Health and social care staff have been commended for their contribution to care improvement through innovative use of technology at the annual HSC eHealth and Care Awards 2015.

Over 27 entries were received from health and social care teams across Northern Ireland. Representatives from the four awards categories attended the ceremony hosted by the Northern Ireland Confederation of Health and Social Services (NICON) and the Health and Social Care Board.

Health Minister, Simon Hamilton said: “Innovation and technology, and how we adopt and use it, are important in shaping the future delivery of health and care in Northern Ireland. I have always said that Northern Ireland has some of the best health and care staff with an ability to be innovative in changing the way services are delivered to improve health outcomes. The awards today recognise this and I look forward to seeing the impact these technology innovations make to service delivery and the benefits to patients and service users.”
Dr Ian Clements, Chairman, Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) and Dr Eddie Rooney, Chief Executive, Public Health Agency presented awards to the winners and those shortlisted. Dr Clements said: “eHealth has enabled remarkable improvements in the delivery of health and social care in Northern Ireland, making a significant difference to patients, clients and carers experiences. Today’s event showcases how projects can support better integration and coordination and how electronic information can be shared by different parts of the health and social care system to benefit patients and clients.

“I congratulate and thank all those involved in the delivery of these projects. Their professionalism and expertise is to be commended.”

Deborah McNeilly, Deputy Secretary Healthcare Policy, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) spoke at the ceremony. She said: “An event like todays shines a light on the creativity which exists within our health and care system. We must ensure that it is nurtured and that staff at all levels have the opportunity to channel their knowledge and skills into projects which will lead to better outcomes for patients and service users.”

**Awards**

The winning project for the category, ‘Technology Innovation’, was the Northern Health and Social Care Trust’s project - Electronic Referrals Processing for District Nursing.

Prior to this project, district nurses received patient referrals from GPs via a telephone call to a Call Centre. The new innovative system now means that GP referrals are automatically loaded into the district nurse’s caseload system. They can pick these up throughout the day and act on them as appropriate. GPs can check the status of their referrals at any time. This has enormous benefits for all staff and service users.

![Image](image-url)

Winner of the **Technology Innovation Award** was Electronic Referrals Processing for District Nursing at Northern Health and Social Care Trust. Alison Dickson pictured with the Award with colleagues from the Trust. Also pictured is Chairman of HSCB, Dr Ian Clements.
The winner of the ‘eHealth Innovation’ award was the NIECR e-Referrals Triage Management Solution.

This solution was developed by the Business Services Organisation (BSO) working in close collaboration with the Northern Health and Social Care Trust. It allows for faster, better and safer decisions to be made about patients’ care. As soon as a referral is sent from the GP to the hospital it is electronically available to the hospital clinician for assessment. The clinical decision is captured electronically which helps speed up the management of the referral. The tool is now used in over 20 specialties in the Trust and has been designed to scale to provide a solution for all of Northern Ireland, with some specialties in Belfast and in the West already using the system.

The winner of the third award, ‘eHealth Champion 2015’, was Dr Roy Harper, Consultant Physician and Endocrinologist, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust. Dr Harper has pioneered the use of technology over many years to support better care, culminating in his work on the national award winning NI Electronic Care Record. He continues to innovate by bringing the latest technology to his ward and by working with colleagues to introduce improvements.

Winner of the eHealth Innovation Award was NIECR eReferrals Triage Management Solution developed by the Business Services Organisation working with the Northern Health and Social Care Trust. From left: Sean Donaghy, HSCB; Deborah McNeilly, DHSSPS; Gary Loughran, BSO; Dr Ian Clements, Chairman, HSCB; Mr Jaroslav Novak, NHSCT and Lee Brolly, BSO.

Dr Roy Harper (centre), Consultant Physician and Endocrinologist, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust winner of the eHealth Champion Award. Also pictured are Deborah McNeilly, DHSSPS and Sean Donaghy, Director of eHealth and External Collaboration, HSCB.
In this category, the panel also commended the work led by Rhona Brennan, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, on the introduction of an electronic Health Equality form to support better care outcomes for individuals with a learning disability.

Highly commended in the eHealth Champion category was Rhona Brennan, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust pictured with Dr Eddie Rooney, Chief Executive of the Public Health Agency.

Sean Dooher, ICT Project Manager, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, was awarded the ‘Informatics Rising Star of the Future 2015’ for his outstanding work in delivering large and complex technology enabled service changes in the Trust. The most recent project, being the Electronic Document and Management System which has moved healthcare professionals away from traditional methods of record keeping in paper documents to a digitised version.

Sean Dooher, ICT Project Manager, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust winner of the Informatics Rising Star of the Future eHealth Award. Also pictured are Deborah McNeilly, DHSSPS and Sean Donaghy, Director eHealth and External Collaboration, HSCB.
Heather Moorhead, Director of NICON also welcomed the awards; “The creative use of technology in health and social care will provide us with new possibilities for improving health and social care in the future and we want to be at the forefront of this innovation in N Ireland. We are therefore delighted that the expertise showcased today has been outstanding and signifies the dedication and expertise of those working on our healthcare services.”

Further information on the Awards, winners and those shortlisted can be viewed on the HSC Board website on [www.hscboard.hscni.net/ehealthandcare](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/ehealthandcare).

For further information contact the Health and Social Care Board Communications Office, Health and Social Care Board, 028 9536 3020.

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World Quality Day

World Quality Day was celebrated on the 12th November 2015 worldwide. World Quality Day is an opportunity to reach out beyond the profession and share the important contribution that quality makes towards a nation's and an organisation's growth and prosperity. The purpose of World Quality Day is to promote awareness of quality around the world and to encourage individuals' and organisations' growth and prosperity.

As part of HSCNI's involvement in World Quality Day, many health organisations including the BSO have developed and published Annual Quality reports. The Annual Quality Report documents the BSO approach to quality, excellence and continuous Improvement during the year 2014-15, and sets out future plans for improvement. The BSO Annual Quality Report for 2014-15 is now available on the BSO Website.
After the success of the second Annual Dinner Dance, held in the Malone Lodge hotel on 2nd October 2015, BSO were delighted to present ‘TinyLife’ with a cheque for £4,052. A letter expressing TinyLife’s thanks for the event can be found on the next page.
3rd November 2015

Business Services Organisation
FAO Helen Hanna
Senior Legal Assistant
12–22 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8DQ

Dear Helen,

I write to you on behalf of TinyLife, Northern Ireland’s premature and vulnerable baby charity to thank you and your colleagues most sincerely for your generous donation of £3,517 + £535 Just Giving overall total £4,052.00 which was recently raised at your Annual Charity Dinner. Well Done.

TinyLife has been providing practical and emotional support to the parents of premature and sick babies in Northern Ireland for the past 26 years. From the early days of NIMBA the charity has invested over £500,000 in medical research the results of which, are now saving the lives of thousands of babies worldwide. In more recent years the development of a Family Support Service has ensured that families experiencing the birth of a premature or sick baby receive the practical and emotional support they need. Thanks to people like you, we have been able to extend our services to include sensory therapy, baby massage and a new TinyGym initiative that provides physiotherapy to babies born at 32 weeks or less.

Every day in Northern Ireland 7 babies are born too soon, some arriving as early as 24 weeks, weighing as little as 1lb!

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Kimberly Hill
Community Fundraiser Belfast

PS: TinyLife receives a small amount of statutory money with over 80% of our income generated from voluntary contributions including gifts in wills.
Your Suggestions Are Under Consideration!
The Organisation Workforce Development Group has in recent months set up the Staff Engagement Subgroup. The Subgroup is chaired by HSC Pensions Senior Manager Heather Dougherty, and is currently considering ‘Better Staff Suggestions’ and feedback from the Staff Engagement Workshop 2014. Full reports for both are currently being worked on, and many suggestions and recommendations are being taken forward.

Valerie Morrison Award for Excellence
At the Ulster University’s awards ceremony on 13th November 2015 Sharon Maginn, Nurse Education Consultant with the HSC Clinical Education Centre was awarded the Valerie Morrison Award for Excellence in Nurse Education. This perpetual award is made to the student who achieves the best overall mark in the Post Graduate Certificate of Education for Nursing and Midwifery programme. Sharon is pictured receiving the award from Professor Owen Barr Head of School Nursing and Midwifery Ulster University.

Forthcoming Board Meeting
The next meeting of the BSO Board will take place on Thursday 17th December at 10am in the Board Room, Franklin Street.
If you would like any further information or details of the agenda, please contact Amanda Mills in the Chief Executive’s Office.
Tel: (028) 953 63863
Email: Amanda.Mills@hscni.net