South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Paper No: SET/146/26	
Trust Board Meeting: 30 September 2026	
Public Agenda Item 3.2	

Title of Paper:	**Being Human HSC Safety Culture Framework Update**		
~~**For Decision**~~	~~**For Assurance**~~	**For Information**	~~**For Discussion**~~

1.0	**Background:**
	This paper provides an update for Board Members on developments relating to the Being Human Framework since the Board meeting in June 2026.
2.0	**Key Issues:**
	SEHSCT representatives were in attendance at the HSC Quality & Safety Summit in June 2026 when then Minister Nesbitt addressed delegates following the publication of the Reports by the Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) and Urology Services Inquiries. Attendees heard about ongoing policy work intended to foster an open and learning culture including the Being Human Framework. Please find attached copy correspondence received 26 June 2026 from RQIA by both the Chair and the Chief Executive setting out an update in relation to the Framework (**SET/147/26**). RQIA asked the Trust to publish the Framework on our website. We can confirm this has been actioned as per their request. By way of further update, RQIA published 'Adopting the Being Human Framework: Guidance for Boards and Non-Executive Directors' in August 2026. A copy of the Guidance has been tabled with your papers for your review.
3.0	**Link to Strategic Objectives:**
	Our People ☒ Population Health & Health Inequalities ☐ Delivering Care Closer to Home ☐ Hospital Care ☒ Safety, Quality and Experience of Care ☒
4.0	**Resource Implications (inc Organisational, Financial, Human Resources):**
	1. Organisational
	SEHSCT has now established a new Patient Safety and Quality Committee. Further changes are being considered to our Integrated Governance & Assurance Framework (IGAF) to better align with Ministerial priorities. The Guidance for Boards is currently being considered and a further report will be brought back to Members in due course.
	2. Financial
	Not applicable.

	3. Human Resources
	Not applicable.
	4. Environmental Factors Yes ☐ No ☒
5.0	**Impact on Safety, Quality and Experience (SQE):**
	1. Safety
	The proposed actions arising from the recent HSC Quality & Safety Summit as set out in the summary report also considered at today's meeting aim to establish an enhanced SQE culture. SEHSCT is committed to working with DoH and other HSC Trusts in order to deliver upon the ambition set out within the Being Human Framework.
	2. Quality
	As noted above.
	3. Experience
	As noted above,
6.0	**Key Risks and Proposals to Mitigate:**
	1. Key Risks
	Delays in taking forward key aspects of the Framework may affect timely learning and organisational assurance.
	2. Proposals to Mitigate
	Continue monitoring, implementation and impact of recommendations. Engagement with the Designated Non-Executive Director for the Framework.
7.0	**Risk Register:**
	It is listed on BAF? Yes ☐ No ☒ Is it listed on CRR? Yes ☐ No ☒

Lead Director:	**Claire Smyth, Director of People & Organisational Development**
Date:	**25 September 2026**

Reasons for Paper Presentation

Decision	*Used when an item requires a formal agreement or endorsement by the meeting / committee members. Examples are approving minutes, budgets, proposals or policies.*
Assurance	*Used when an item can be measured against a certain criteria / standard. Examples are a project is on course with delivery or financial targets are being met.*
Information	*Used when an item is presented for the purpose of updating or informing the attendees without requiring a decision or action, such as reports, updates, or announcements.*
Discussion	*Used when an item is listed primarily for open discussion, brainstorming or gathering input from the members without requiring an immediate decision.*