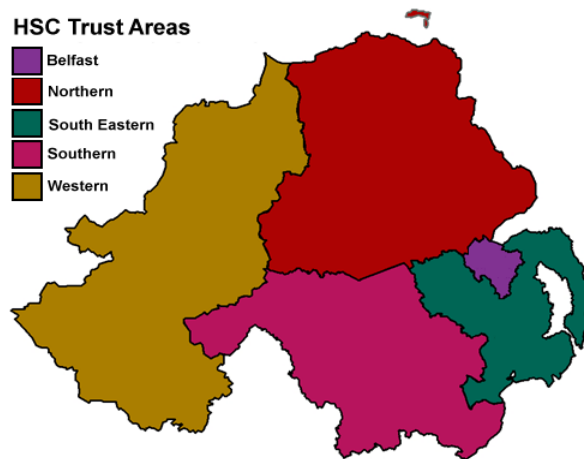




The NHS in Northern Ireland

Overview

There are total of six Health and Social Care (HSC) Trusts in Northern Ireland. Five of these provide integrated health and social care services across NI. They manage and administer hospitals, health centres, residential homes, day centres and other health and social care facilities and services. The sixth Trust is the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service. NHS prescriptions have been free to NI residents registered with a doctor from 2010.



General practice in Northern Ireland

There are over 350 GP Practices throughout NI.

Northern Ireland is the only part of the UK that has a unified model of Federations governed by a unified Members Agreement covering its entire population. It has been both led and funded by GPs themselves. Currently there are 17 Federations covering approximately a patient population of 1.8 million. An average GP Federation comprises around 20 practices with c100,000 patients. Each has been established as a Community Interest Company Limited by Guarantee in the not-for-profit sector.

Training places in NI for those wanting to become GPs have risen significantly in the past two years from 65 to 97. The majority of these posts have been filled, but there remains a GP shortage, particularly in rural localities.

[Health & Social Care Services NI](#)

Image supplied by VisitBritain

