

## **0'Dowd launches Civil Service recruitment for 200 jobs in the North West**

Finance Minister John O'Dowd has launched a new approach to recruitment for around 200 Administrative Officers, for vacancies in the North West.

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## **Language Commissioners and Director of the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression appointed**

The First Minister and deputy First Minister have announced the appointment of Dr Katy Radford as the Director of the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression (OICE), Pól Deeds as the Irish Language Commissioner, and Lee Reynolds as the Commissioner for the Ulster Scots and the Ulster British tradition.

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## **Health Minister Visits Kilrea Dental Surgery**

Health Minister Mike Nesbitt visited Kilrea Dental Surgery to recognise the practice's vital contribution to improving access to Health Service dental care through the Dental Access Scheme (DAS). Since joining the Scheme in 2024 the Kilrea Surgery has treated 3,817 patients. The Minister was accompanied by Chief Dental Officer, Caroline Lappin.

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## **Health Minister opens 2026/2027 Core**

## **Grant funding scheme**

The Health Minister today launched the Department of Health's Core Grant funding scheme for 2026/2027.

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## **Communities Minister announces changes to funding for new social homes**

Communities Minister Gordon Lyons today announced a number of changes to increase the delivery of new social homes across Northern Ireland.