The NI Diabetes Network launched the Regional Foot Care Pathway on World Diabetes day, 14 November 2019.

Many of you joined us at Ballymena Health and Care Centre to mark the implementation of this new service, a service that was developed in partnership with you alongside our patient community and Diabetes UK.

Ten weeks on I wanted to update you on progress both in the area of foot care health and more generally in terms of the Network.

It’s worth remembering that the new Pathway enables all adults with diabetes to access the same services no matter where they live in Northern Ireland.

It consists of four steps including annual foot care screening through to advanced foot disease care and treatment.

Focusing on the prevention of ulcers and amputations will ultimately reduce hospital admissions.

Change takes time but the preliminary reports are that the Foot Care Pathway is already making a positive difference for those people living with diabetes.

I want to acknowledge the significant amount of hard work done by many people to bring this to fruition.

I am confident that a real difference in foot outcomes will be the result in due course.
"CHANGE TAKES TIME...I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF HARD WORK DONE BY MANY PEOPLE TO BRING THIS TO FRUITION."

We are currently reviewing our work programme three years on from the launch of The Diabetes Strategic Framework (2016). In April, we will launch our new programme of work for 2020 – 2026.

The Network Board are well aware that there are many other pressing issues related to diabetes healthcare delivery in Northern Ireland.

We have achieved a lot, but there is more work to do. As Clinical Director I will be in more regular contact to update you on our progress.

I will continue to seek your involvement as we work to improve diabetes treatment and care for people across Northern Ireland.