**The Health Insurance Authority announces the appointment of a new CEO/ Registrar**

The Health Insurance Authority (HIA) is delighted to announce the appointment of Brian Lee as CEO/ Registrar.

Welcoming the appointment, Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly said: “Brian brings a range of experience in regulatory and operational roles in the health and social care sector to the role of CEO/Registrar in the Health Insurance Authority. Brian’s considerable leadership experience will be pivotal to the Health Insurance Authority, to build on the great work that the Authority has done in partnership with the Department of Health and other key stakeholders and to lead strategic development during a time of change in the sector.”

Patricia Byron, Chairperson of the Authority, said: “The Health Insurance Authority is delighted to have someone with Brian’s depth of experience at the helm. We look forward to working with him and his executive team on furthering important policy issues in the health insurance industry and preparing our 3-year strategy for 2025- 2027”

Brian Lee, newly appointed CEO of the HIA said: “I am delighted to be joining the HIA at an exciting time for the private health insurance industry and the Irish health system. More consumers than ever hold health insurance policies, and that provides us with an opportunity to engage with them with information on their rights, benefits and all aspects of their health insurance policy. I look forward to engaging with consumers and working with colleagues in the Department of Health, the sector, other agencies and the wider stakeholder community.”

Brian joins the HIA after over 3 years with the HSE where he was Head of Operations for the COVID-19 Test and Trace Programme. Prior to this Brian was Director of Quality Assurance and Regulation with Tusla – the Child and Family Agency for over 6 years. His previous roles include Director of Operations with Health Care Informed, National Clinical Care Programme Manager in the HSE, Project Manager and Inspector with HIQA, and United Drug.

Brian has served as Chair of the Board of Directors of Gheel Autism Services and served as a member of CORU Council - the statutory regulator for the Health and Social Care professionals.

He holds an MBA from TU Dublin and a number of qualifications from University College Dublin including a Degree in Biochemistry, and Graduate Diplomas in Healthcare Risk Management and Quality, Professional Regulation and Organisational Renewal and Transformation.

**Notes to the Editor:**

Established in 2001 under the Health Insurance Acts, the HIA is a statutory regulator of the private health insurance market in Ireland. The HIA enables a functioning health insurance market for the benefit of consumers, providers, and policy makers that underpins an accessible health service. The role of the HIA is to ensure consumers are aware of their rights and insurers know their responsibilities in relation to health insurance in Ireland, as well as effectively monitoring the compliance of registered undertakings with the Health Insurance Acts and accompanying regulations and taking measures to secure such compliance. The Health Insurance Act 1994, as amended, provides the legislative basis for the Open Enrolment, Lifetime Cover and Community Rating in the Irish health insurance market.