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Hi all,

I thought it best to send a brief email as you may have heard mutterings about whether the NIRHI admin agreement is in place. We are very close to agreeing the final version with DETI and hope to finalise it late this week or early next. We are now just down to the final few i's to dot and t's to cross. While we can't make accreditation decisions without this being in place, we certainly can and should handle enquiries, accept applications for accreditation and process applications as we normally would. This is why we went live with the scheme last Thursday. In short the NIRHI is "open for business".

For the avoidance of doubt, I don't think it's appropriate to mention externally that we are still finalising the agreement as it would introduce unnecessary uncertainty amongst external stakeholders and could be a reputational issue if misrepresented. If we are asked about whether the NIRHI is up and running all we need to say is that it is, and to point people towards the webpage with the application forms and other information.

If you have any questions about this then you could ask your senior manager in the first instance, but if they can't answer them then I'd be happy to.

Regards,

Matthew

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