

Aflac NI appoints new boss ahead of office move

US health insurance company Aflac Northern Ireland has named Mark McCormack as its new managing director as it moves into new grade A offices in Belfast harbour.

Mr McCormack was previously head of technology and has been with the firm since it first set up a base in Belfast in 2019.

He succeeds Keith Farley, the US Aflac executive who brought the company to Northern Ireland initially and who has been a strong advocate of the region as a base for overseas investment. Mr Farley is moving back to the US to become the firm's Chief Customer Experience Officer.

"Mark is an exceptional leader, a good friend, and the perfect person to lead Aflac NI as we move into our next chapter," Mr Farley said. "He was our first local hire and was instrumental in making our vision a reality, Keith said. "On a personal note, my family and I have loved our time in Northern Ireland and will look forward to many return visits after we move this summer."

Mr McCormack takes over the chief Belfast role at Georgia-headquartered Aflac as it confirms plans to move into City Quays 3 in Belfast harbour from its current accommodation at City Quays 2, expanding its footprint to 20,000 square feet. It said it has reached its target to hire 150 technical staff two years ahead of schedule.

"Aflac Northern Ireland's journey has been a resounding success and I'm delighted to lead a new and exciting phase of expansion with a strong, experienced team that is delivering transformative technology solutions that make a global impact every day," he said. "As we celebrate three successful years in Northern Ireland, I'm thrilled to confirm our move to a

larger high-spec office space at City Quays 3 which is reflective of the exceptional growth and impact Aflac NI has made locally and abroad.”