



Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council (SCNAC)
NORTHWEST Region Quarterly Meeting 04 – Thursday 3rd April 2025

<u>Attending:</u>		
Karen Davies	-	Chair of Northwest SCNAC & Senior Nurse, HC-One
Michelle Howarth	-	Co-Chair of Northwest SCNAC & Senior Engagement Fellow, Edge Hill University
Adem Oyekan	-	Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC)
Claire Bentley	-	Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells
Barbara Johnson	-	Director of Nursing, Risedale Estates
Pauline Bradshaw	-	NHSE Deputy Director of Nursing (Clinical Quality) Northwest
Angela Clarke	-	Attending on behalf of Sarah O'Brien, CNO Lancashire & South Cumbria
Susan Clarke	-	Social Care Workforce Development Manager, GM - NHSE
Emily Devitt	-	Director of Nursing, Risedale Estates
Maxine Emslie	-	Admiral Nurse
Jez Ashdown	-	Regional & National Nursing Lead for Skills for Care
Julie York	-	CIC
Sarah Kennedy	-	Senior Lecturer at University of Bolton
Craig Priestly	-	Manager, Gorsey Clough Nursing Home
Melanie Stephens	-	Associate Professor Adult Nursing, Salford University
Michelle Tennant	-	Clinical Governance Lead for Home Instead
Sue Noon	-	Social Care and PIVO Workforce Development Manager, Cheshire & Merseyside ICB
Pauline Palmer-Charlery	-	NMC Regulation Adviser Employment Link Service
Peter Weller	-	NHS Greater Manchester ICB
Caroline Daley	-	Home Manager, HC-One
Sonia Pritchard	-	EA for the Outstanding Society and SCNACs Administrator

<u>Apologies:</u>		
Deborah Sturdy	-	Chief Nurse for Social Care, DHSC (Adem Okeyan attending on her behalf)
Mandy Philbin	-	ICB CNO, Greater Manchester
Courtney Hurley	-	Northwest Ambulance Service (NWAS)
Michelle Ashworth	-	Attending on behalf of Emma Orton from NWAS
Sarah O'Brien	-	NHS Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB
Melissa Stanton	-	Lead Nurse Independent Health & Social Care, RCN
Jade Hennon	-	CIC



Please see the attached spreadsheet for the action points of this meeting.

Date of Future Meetings:

TBC July/August 2025

Summary Notes:

DHSC Update from Adem Oyekan on behalf of Deborah Sturdy, Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care who sent her apologies:

DHSC and NHS England Merger: Adem provided an update on the merger between DHSC and NHS England, highlighting that significant changes are expected, and further details will be shared as they become available.

NIHR Social Care Nursing Programme: Adem announced the upcoming launch of a social care nursing programme by NIHR, which will be the first of its kind in the UK. Announcements will be made in the coming weeks.

Undergraduate Placement Strategy: Adem discussed the ongoing work with Skills for Care on an undergraduate placement strategy, with a tentative launch planned for the summer.

Key Nursing Events in May: Adem mentioned several key nursing events in May, including the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) event on May 6th and International Nurses Day on May 12th, with Skills for Care holding a webinar on that day.

Deb's Retirement Update: Adem shared the news that Deb will continue in her role part-time from August, despite her planned retirement at the end of July.

RCN Webinar Series: Adem informed the group about the RCN's upcoming webinar series for soon-to-be-qualified nurses and graduate nurse students, which will raise awareness of career opportunities in the social care sector.

Learning Disability Nursing Round Table: Adem announced that Deb is organising a round table in May to bring together key voices in learning disability nursing to drive change.

RBCS Programme: Adem encouraged participation in the ongoing Resilience Based Clinical Studies (RBCS) programme, noting that early results are very positive.

CQC Review: Adem mentioned that the second phase of Dr. Penny Dash's review of the operational effectiveness of the CQC is expected to be published soon, with implications for social care.

Baroness Casey's Independent Commission: Adem provided an update on Baroness Casey's Independent Commission on Adult Social Care, which is progressing and expected to start this month.

Delegation in Social Care: Adem highlighted that delegation in social care is a key focus area for the next 12 months, with a well-attended webinar held last week.

Single Point of Access Hub: Claire Bentley presented on the Single Point of Access Hub in West Kent, which aims to reduce hospital admissions by providing a centralized point for ambulance crews to seek advice and alternative care pathways.

Hub Operations and Governance: Claire explained the operations and governance of the Single Point of Access Hub, which runs seven days a week and involves collaboration between multiple healthcare providers.

Case Study Example: Claire shared a case study example of an 89-year-old patient who was successfully treated at home through the hub, avoiding hospital admission.

Impact of the Hub: Claire highlighted the significant impact of the hub, with a reduction in hospital admissions and improved patient outcomes.



Future Developments: Claire discussed future developments for the hub, including greater engagement with primary care and potential expansion to overnight operations.

Student Nurse Placements: Barbara Johnson emphasized the importance of student nurse placements in social care settings, highlighting the benefits for both students and providers.

Overcoming Challenges: Barbara and other participants discussed strategies for overcoming challenges in implementing student nurse placements, including gaining buy-in from nursing teams and providing adequate support.

Research Internships: Michelle Howarth presented information on the upcoming NIHR Regional Social Care Nursing Research Internships, which aim to build research capacity and capability in social care.

Research Champions: Michelle discussed the role of locality-based social care nursing research champions, who will help connect and support research initiatives in the sector.

T Levels in Social Care: Karen and Michelle provided an update on the work being done to integrate T Levels into social care, highlighting the potential benefits for workforce development.

Hospital Admissions Research: Karen mentioned an upcoming project led by Emily Pimm to investigate reasons for hospital admissions from care homes and develop strategies to prevent them.

Joint Care Sector Clinical Fellow: Michelle shared information about a new joint care sector clinical fellow role, which aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice and support learning environments in social care.

Care Show London: Sonia announced that for the first time ever there will be a Social Care Nursing Lounge at Care Show London on 30th April and 1st May which will be hosted by some of the regional SCNACs Co-Chairs, joined by FoNS, Qicn, Skills for Care, RCN Foundation and Salford University. You can book free tickets [here](#).

Manchester Pride Participation: Sonia announced that the Out Standing Diversity Forum (OSDF), a division of the Outstanding Society, has been given 150 places to march for Adult Social Care at Manchester Pride this year. Interest for tickets can be expressed at Care Show London on 30th April and 1st May (details above) or by emailing info@theoutstandingsociety.co.uk from 2nd May 2025.