



**Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council (SCNAC)**  
**SOUTHWEST Region Virtual Quarterly Meeting 05**  
**Wednesday 16th July 2025, 09:30-11:00**

<b><u>Attending:</u></b>		
Sarah Wytrykowski	-	Co-Chair for Southwest SCNAC and Head of Complex Care, Bluebird Care
Cheryl Angco	-	Co-Chair for Southwest SCNAC and Clinical & Quality Assurance Team Lead, Ashfield Services
Deborah Sturdy	-	Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care, DHSC
Anne Lewin	-	Home Manager, Royal British Legion (charitable sector)
Ashleigh Fox	-	Transforming Care Director (RNLD) - Cornwall Primary Care Training Hub
Ben Miller	-	Registered Mental Health Nurse
Caroline Holt	-	Employer Link Service Adviser (ELS), NMC
Charlotte Fry	-	Independent Nurse Consultant - Caring Footsteps
Jill Crook	-	On behalf of Southwest Regional CNOs, NHS England
Annie Dale	-	Head of Nursing, Southwest Prisons
Leanne Vinakadina	-	Deputy Manager, Laverstock Care Centre, Caring Homes Group
Lisa Vogwell	-	Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, NHS Foundation Trust, Southwestern Ambulance Service
Margot Whittaker	-	Director of Nursing, Southern Healthcare
Michele Harrison	-	Regulation Adviser for Southwest, Jersey and Guernsey - NMC
Su Monk	-	Attending on behalf of Mary Lewis, CNO - Sirona NHS BNSSG ICB
Cathy Rant	-	Lecturer, Academy of Nursing Clinical Practice Lead – University of Exeter
Teresa Chinn	-	Registered Nurse, Brunelcare
Jodie Andrews (nee Nelder)	-	Registered Manager, Residential Care – Grayareas Limited
Sonia Pritchard	-	EA for the The Outstanding Society (OS) & SCNACs Administrator

<b><u>Apologies:</u></b>		
Zoë Fry	-	Director of Nursing, The OS and SCNACs Co-Chair
Helen Stapleton	-	Associate Director of Strategic Workforce Transformation, Somerset Integrated Care System
Vanessa Ongley	-	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
Julie Taylor	-	Dorothy House Hospice
Rosi Shepherd	-	CNO, BNSSG ICB



Stuart Bareham	-	NHS Dorset ICB
Marie Crofts	-	CNO, Gloucestershire ICB
Keryn Morris	-	Locality Manager (Southwest), Skills for Care
Jakki Whitehead	-	Admiral Nurse, Riversway Nursing Home
Angelique Attack	-	Programme Lead / Lecturer – Nursing Associates, Bournemouth and Poole College
Hilary Robinson	-	CEO / RN, Registered Care Providers Association (RCPA)
Shelagh Meldrum	-	CNO NHS Somerset IC
Jane Haros	-	Deputy Director of Nursing, NHS Gloucestershire ICB
Kathryn Dalby-Welsh	-	
Penny Smith	-	Chief Nursing Officer, NHS Devon ICB
John Powell	-	Director, Unicare Devon

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

#### **Date of Future Meetings:**

- Wednesday 28th January 2026, 9.30am - 11.00am
- TBC April 2026

#### **Summary Notes:**

**Leadership Transition:** Sarah announced this meeting as her final meeting as Co-Chair of the Southwest SCNAC. The Outstanding Society are advertising for her successor so if anyone on the council is interested or knows anyone that would be interested, please send expressions of interest to Cheryl and Sonia ([cheryl.southwest@scnac.co.uk](mailto:cheryl.southwest@scnac.co.uk) and [Admin.SCNAC@theoutstandingsociety.co.uk](mailto:Admin.SCNAC@theoutstandingsociety.co.uk)) Deborah Sturdy and others expressed appreciation for Sarah's efforts in her time as Co-Chair and wished her success in her new out of sector position.

#### **Updates from the Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care, Deborah Sturdy, from the DHSC:**

- **Nursing Strategy Development:** Deborah reported on the Chief Nurse Conference, which focused on the 10-year vision for nursing, emphasising inclusivity across the entire nursing family, not just the NHS. She highlighted the importance of social care representation and encouraged Council members to contribute to the strategy's development.
- **Nurse Prescribing Pilot:** Deborah announced that the successful ICBs for the nurse prescribing pilot would be revealed soon, noting the significance of these pilots for advancing practice and the need for robust evaluation to secure future funding.
- **Undergraduate Placement and Council of Deans Collaboration:** The Council of Deans will be subcontracted to run a network for newly qualified and student nurses in



social care, strengthening ties with higher education institutions and supporting the undergraduate placement strategy.

#### **Updates from the Regional CNO, Jill Crook:**

- **ICB Clustering and Organisational Changes:** Jill updated the Council on the ongoing clustering of ICBs, the appointment of chief executives, and the challenges posed by political factors and funding for redundancies, noting delays in the process.
- **Workforce Volatility and Recruitment:** Jill discussed ongoing workforce volatility, including challenges with newly qualified nurses, reductions in mental health and learning disability training applicants, and the impact of government policies on international recruitment.

**Council Membership Updates:** Cheryl highlighted the need for Council members to submit photos and bios to enhance visibility and representation on the Southwest regional webpage and encouraged members to refer individuals who should have a voice at the table to join.

**Student Nurse Representation:** The Council discussed establishing a student nurse representative role, with Ashleigh volunteering to coordinate outreach to universities and Lisa offering a list of university contacts to facilitate this process.

**Inclusivity and Diversity Efforts:** Cheryl outlined ongoing efforts to ensure the Council reflects diversity across settings, cultures, and ethnicities, including outreach to ethnic minorities and underrepresented groups, and monitoring equality and diversity as key performance indicators.

**Council Engagement and KPIs:** Cheryl shared the Council's key performance indicators, which include council engagement, equality and diversity membership growth, content contributions, stakeholder engagement, and timely reporting, stressing the importance of active participation.

**Workforce Challenges and Newly Qualified Nurses:** Council members discussed the employment situation for newly qualified nurses, noting improvements in job placements but ongoing challenges with role preferences and part-time work, with regional monitoring in place.

- **Employment Situation for Newly Qualified Nurses:** Jill reported that most newly qualified nurses in the Southwest are finding jobs, though some face challenges due to role preferences or the availability of only full-time positions, with the situation being monitored by the Workforce Training and Education Directorate.



- **Regional Variations and Employer Experiences:** Teresa echoed that the flurry of newly qualified nurses seeking positions has subsided in the Bristol area, with those hired currently undergoing preceptorship, indicating regional differences in workforce pressures.
- **Future Workforce Volatility:** Jill Crook cautioned that workforce volatility is expected to continue, particularly with upcoming cohorts of newly qualified nurses, and highlighted the lack of financial incentives for non-midwifery branches.

**Prescribing Support and Research Collaboration:** The status of prescribing support initiatives was discussed. Margot expressed interest in engaging with prescribing initiatives, and Cheryl and Sarah agreed to connect interested members with Claire Pryor, who is leading relevant research and working groups on nurse prescribing in social care, to ensure alignment and maximise impact.

**Regional Priority: Dementia Prevention Project:** Council members agreed to adopt a dementia prevention project as the regional priority:

- **Project Blueprint and Prevention Champions:** The Council aims to develop a project blueprint for prevention topics, starting with dementia, to be replicated nationally, including the creation of prevention champions, training resources, and measurable outcomes.
- **Evidence and Inequalities:** Cheryl presented data on dementia prevalence and inequalities, highlighting risk factors such as socioeconomic status, education, ethnicity, and Down syndrome, and emphasised the need for evidence-based interventions (presentation attached.)
- **Collaboration with Experts and Stakeholders:** Dr Zena Aldridge offered her expertise and NIHR-funded time to support the project, and Council members, including Annie from the prison sector, expressed interest in contributing, particularly regarding underrepresented settings.
- **Project Repository and Existing Initiatives:** Charlotte suggested leveraging the Council's project repository to identify and replicate successful prevention projects, such as hydration champions, and integrating these with the dementia prevention initiative.

**NMC Engagement and Support for Social Care Sector:** Caroline Holt from the NMC introduced her role supporting the independent health and social care sector, promoted the employer advice line for guidance on fitness to practise and regulatory issues, and described the NMC's strategy to address regulatory performance and inequalities affecting international



staff and colleagues from black and ethnic minority backgrounds, with Caroline planning learning sessions and outreach to relevant forums.

The NMC Employer Link Service Line contact details are:

Tel: 0207 462 8850 or [employerlinkservice@nmc-uk.org](mailto:employerlinkservice@nmc-uk.org)

**Logo and Branding Update:** Cheryl announced the adoption of a new, more accessible Council logo, designed to address colour blindness and readability concerns, with updated branding to be rolled out in future communications.

**Member Profiles and Website:** Council members were reminded again to submit photos and bios for the Southwest region web page to enhance visibility and representation, with Charlotte assisting in maintaining the project repository.

**Meeting Scheduling:** Sonia confirmed the next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th January, with a subsequent meeting planned for April 2026.