



Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council (SCNAC)
LONDON Region Quarterly Meeting 07 – Wednesday 21st January 2026

<u>Attending:</u>		
Louise Keane	-	Regional Co-Chair for London
Joanna Grant	-	Regional Co-Chair for London and Director of Nursing for MCS Healthcare
Deborah Sturdy	-	Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care, DHSC – Adem Oyekan attending on her behalf
Alison Porteous	-	Skills for Care, attending on behalf of Laura Anthony
Alyce Sheedy	-	Wellbeing Nurse Ambassador, Riverstone Living
Alin Valentin Cojocaru	-	Business Manager, Azalea Court Business
Dawn Beaumont-Jewell	-	Acting Chief Operating Officer, NIHR South London
David Taylor	-	Regulation Advisor for Independent Health & Care – London NMC
Dudley Sawyerr (Mr D)	-	London Care and Support (LCAS) Forum
Esther Naa Adjaye	-	Student Nurse, Middlesex University London
Pauline Fahy	-	Senior Programme Manager, Health & Care in the Community, NHS England – London Region
Jenny Goodridge	-	Director of Quality & Clinical Standards and Interim CNO, North Central London
Isatta Sisay	-	Director of Care, Royal Trinity Hospice
Kate Meacock	-	Campaigner, Rights for Residents
Lauren Hague	-	Care England – attending on behalf of Tom Pisani
Lizzie Wallman	-	Deputy Chief Nurse, NHS South East London
Anne Middleton	-	Director of Nursing, North West London ICB – leading CHC, CCC and Complex Care
Mike Armstrong	-	Havering Care Homes
Millie Simms	-	Independent Lead for Health & Social Care, RCN
Mirko Ridolfo	-	Operations Lead, Majesticare Care Homes
Nuno Santos Lopes	-	Ex London SCNAC Co-Chair, Director of Research & Innovation, Nightingale Hammerson and Social Care Lead at NIHR, South London
Benedicta Okpor (Benny)	-	SEL ICS Social Care Nursing Clinical Practice Development Lead for South East London
Pam Hodge	-	Senior Lecturer in Practice Learning, Middlesex University, London
Pat Howell	-	Leadership Course with the RCN
Peter Rodway	-	Director and Founder of SLC
Peter Webb	-	London Care and Support (LCAS) Forum
Jacqueline Robinson-Rouse	-	Clinical Workforce Improvement Lead (Capital Nurse), NHS England



Arti Sharma	-	Research Support & Engagement Team Leader from North London Regional Research Delivery Network, NIHR
Tawanda Bvumburai	-	Employer Link Service Advisor, NMC
Tawona Nhamo	-	Registered Manager, Homefield Nursing Home, Bromley
Vinice (Vi) Thomas	-	Director of Nursing & Quality, NHS England – London Region and Deputy CNO, Southeast London ICB, attending on behalf of Karen Bonner, Regional Chief Nurse for London
Ziyanai Shiripinda	-	CQC
Sonia Pritchard	-	EA for the Outstanding Society and SCNACs Administrator

<u>Apologies:</u>		
Karen Bonner	-	Regional Chief Nurse London (Vi Thomas attending on Karen's behalf)
Laura Anthony	-	Senior Locality Manager for the London and South East team, Skills for Care – Alison Porteous attending on her behalf
Margaret Sharpe	-	Skills for Care, attends on behalf of Laura Anthony
Clemence Muchingaguyo	-	Registered Manager, Nightingale Hammerson
Holly Ashforth	-	Deputy Chief Nurse, North West London
Jess Cantone	-	UCLP – was presenting on the Medicine Safety Improvement Programme with Kristina but due to IT outage will present at the next meeting
Kristina Leonnet	-	HIN South London & Cat Cadwell Imperial – was presenting on the Medicine Safety Improvement Programme with Jess but due to IT outage will present at the next meeting

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

Date of Future Meetings:

- Thursday 14th May 2026, 09:30-11:00

Meeting Summary:

Update from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC): Deborah Study joined the meeting to give updates from the DHSC:

- Planning underway for a nursing conference in early Summer. Details to follow and is intended to be hybrid in person in Salford
- Please sign post people to the [Foundation of Nursing Studies \(FoNS\) free resource programme Resilience Based Clinical Supervision](#)
- Research interns being led by Zena Aldridge going really well and in late spring the recruitment of the second cohort will take place



- Please encourage and promote the [Global Majority Skills for Care Network](#). Keen to support colleagues some of whom are facing work-based challenges
- Please encourage everyone to sign up to the [“We are social care nursing”](#) this is going to be a vital communication for sector nurses going forward
- Major reorganisation underway NHSE/ DHSC and wider NHS having significant impact on ways of working and rationalising work priorities / programmes
- Nurse Prescribing pilots underway 40 nurses signed up for programmes. This is being evaluated through a yearlong research study. Critical for future funding
- Duncan Burton is leading a new nursing strategy due to be published in early spring, social care nurses have been on all the work streams
- NMC planning an event in May focused on social care nursing and the revalidation/ code review along with Fitness to Practice referrals

Social Care Placements Updates: Joanna and Pam provided updates, including discussions on social care placements, the role of the nursing advisory councils, and the initiation of a network to increase student placements in adult social care:

- **Pan London Practice Learning Group (PLPLG):**
 - Joanna attended the PLPLG meeting on 14th January 2026. The group consists of all the HEIs (Higher Education Institutions) who have student nurse placements within London. It is a group where practice issues are discussed and work undertaken to support and enhance a Pan London approach. Much of the work is shared nationally.
 - Also on the call with Joanna were the NMC (Nursing and Midwifery Council) and NHS England who warmly welcomed, with all the universities, Joanna's attendance and her sharing the role and work of the SCNAC generally and the specific focus within London, highlighting the breadth of social care beyond nursing homes and the importance of linking interested parties to facilitate placements.
 - The universities are all at different stages of engagement with ASC partners and many were unaware of the SCNAC until Joanna's excellent discussion. There was much interest in the work of the SCNAC and ASC generally. Joanna's contribution led to much discussion regarding differing practice learning models and sharing ideas as all recognised the contribution of the ASC sector and how we need to increase student awareness and opportunities in the sector.
 - As a direct result of this session, Pam is meeting with Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) to discuss a community practice model they are trialling in Anglia.
- **New Placement Initiative:** Pam shared a big piece of work which she is looking to commence (for Middlesex University), where by they could include domiciliary and or residential care without nurses into community placements. For example, if a student is allocated to a district nurse team, to slot into a residential care setting for a short time as part of that placement. This would enable the experience without the formal assessment aspects, which are required by the NMC to be with a Nurse. This is very early stages, though there is buy in from the ASC sector with specific services and Pam is now approaching the statutory sector. If all agreed will move to meetings, co-design and ethics. This will take time but hope to implement a model and evaluate it to share



with others. This also fits well with the SCNAC London focus on research within the sector.

- **Council Engagement and Student Nurse Recruitment:** Efforts to increase student nurse involvement in the Council were discussed, requesting members identify and inform student nurses working with them about the SCNAC and encouraging broader participation from all areas, aiming to boost student nurse representation from diverse areas. Millie offered to speak to RCN Professional Lead for students to invite student representation on this work.

IV Treatments Update: Application has been made to RCN Foundation for funds to deliver the programme. Feedback due in February 2026. Seeking more Adult Social Care representation to join the working party. If anyone is interested, please contact Louise or Joanna.

Virtual Wards and Delegated Activities Update: Work is continuing in these areas and further updates will be given at the next meeting.

Clinical Competencies Update: Working party has final sign off at the end of Jan26. Several competencies are still out for review. Plan to try and get Salford to kite mark the work and looking at funding to get competencies to be able to be shared on a digital platform. Louise to contact Sarah Chamberlain at NHS England on work she is doing in the NHS for care workers and putting this on a digital platform.

RCN Updates:

- **Adult Social Care (ASC) Leadership Module:** The survey drafted purpose is to obtain social care nursing input to help shape the day. Working in collaboration with RCN Leadership Academy and taken their feedback on board as well as a small group in social care over Christmas. Louise and Millie to meet to collate all the feedback and finalise the survey. Once ready to be shared, Millie will send the link to Sonia for circulation with Council members.
- **RCN Care Home Visits:** Millie extended thanks everyone involved in making the two care home visits with Nicola Ranger, RCN Chief Exec and Gen Secretary possible last week. Was a superb day and the take aways that Nicola has initiated working on are
 - the impact of National Insurance on social care sectors, and,
 - bed capacity in social care as a solution to the acute sectors bed shortages.

Research Updates: Members were introduced to new Council member, Dr Arti Sharma. Arti is the Research Support and Engagement Leader for North London Regional Delivery Network, NIHR. Arti will share any updates at future meetings.

- **NIHR Social Care Research Conference:** Nuno informed the group about an upcoming face to face research event taking place at St. Thomas' Hospital, Grosvenor's Hall in London on Thursday 5th March 2026 from 9am to 5pm. (You can [click here](#) to book your place.) Speakers include: Dr Caroline Green, Raphael Wittenberg, Lesley Williamson, Ann-Marie Towers, Karen Spilbury, Dr Georgios Tsako, Sandra Prew, Geraldine MacDonald, Zena Aldridge, Mark Wilberforce, Joanne Droney, Nuno Santos Lopes and Dr Calisha Allen.



- **Capturing Research Across London:** Louise emphasised the importance of recognising existing work and best practice while also avoiding duplication and invited council members to email details of any research projects going on across London so we are able to compile a comprehensive overview of activities to be shared across the council. This overview could be showcased at the 5th March event.

Mastering Communication in Social Care: Peter Rodway, Managing Director of Specialist Language Courses (SLC) joined the meeting to request help to test a new digital system.

The ask is:

- They would like Care staff, Carers, Care roles, ideally internationally educated or recruited, to test the LLM and the product.
- Participants would login to a beta version, interact with it, and record their experiences on a feedback form.
- To register interest, complete the form [here](#).
- Those selected would receive an invitation and instructions, then a certificate and a £10 Amazon voucher on successfully submitting the feedback form.

If Council members could go back to their organisations with this offer that would be amazingly helpful. The testing period will be between 30th March and 20th April and participants would need to spare one hour. Presentation is also attached to the sending email, along with a relevant SESCA case study.

Dementia Awareness Collaboration: Kate and Louise shared a collaborative initiative involving year 10 children in schools, student nurses, people with lived experience and everyone involved in adult social care to raise dementia awareness, highlighting the involvement of the Four Nations and the benefits for both students and people with dementia.

- **School Engagement for Dementia:** Louise described the process of engaging schools and children in dementia awareness activities, noting the challenges and the positive outcomes for students.
- **Benefits for People with Dementia:** Louise explained that the initiative allows children to interact with people with dementia, ask questions, and break down taboos, with the involvement of the Four Nations adding value.
- **Potential for Broader Application:** Joanna suggested that the approach could be adapted for other groups, such as those with autism or challenging behaviours, to facilitate communication and understanding.