



EAST OF ENGLAND Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council (SCNAC)
Regional Quarterly Meeting 06
Thursday 16th October 2025, 09:30-11:00

<u>Attending:</u>		
Victoria Hulstrom	-	Regional SCNAC Co-Chair, East of England and Clinical Director for Nouvita Healthcare
Adem Oyekan	-	Private Secretary to Deborah Sturdy, Chief Nurse of Adult Social Care, DHSC
Antonia Williams	-	LD Student Nurse, University of Hertfordshire (3rd Year)
Deborah Marquis	-	Registered Nurse Manager, Care 24/7, Link Nurse for Pain and Palliative Care for the Eastern Region and member of Health Watch
Louise Harper	-	Clinical Educator, Norfolk and Waveney ICB
Phil Tilney	-	Social Care Careers Ambassador, Norfolk & Suffolk Care Support
Sandie Oxborrow	-	Business Development Manager and Nurse, Suffolk Care Association
Sara Harris	-	Locality Manager, Eastern Region, Skills for Care
Sarah Seely	-	Lead Nurse for Independent Heath & Social Care Nurses, Eastern Region for the RCN
Bridgitte Shad	-	Quality Improvement Nurse Team, Norfolk and Waveney ICB
Lynda Stockwell	-	Head of Place Quality for Central, Norfolk and Waveney ICB, attending on behalf of Karen Watts
Tsitsi Penicela	-	Independent Care Quality Consultant working within Adult Social Care, RGN, Researcher and Trainer.
Michelle Horn	-	Director of Nursing, NHSE East of England
Sonia Pritchard	-	EA for the Outstanding Society & SCNACs Administrator

<u>Apologies</u>		
Caron Sanders-Crook	-	Regional SCNAC Co-Chair, East of England and Operations Manager, Canford Healthcare
Deborah Sturdy	-	Chief Nurse for Social Care, DHSC
Karen Watts	-	CNO and Director of Nursing & Quality for Norfolk & Waveney ICB – came on at the beginning of the meeting and gave her apologies. Lynda Stockwell attended on her behalf.
Sarah Stanley	-	CNO, Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes ICB
Giles Thorpe	-	CNO, Mid & South Essex ICB
Lisa Nobes	-	CNO, Suffolk & NE Essex ICB



Zena Aldridge	-	Social Care Nurse Fellow, NIHR Nursing and Midwifery Office
Mike Slator	-	Practising Clinical Pharmacist & Project Support Specialist, VIVALDI Social Care
Mary Edmonds	-	Deputy Dean: Practice Learning & Simulation, Faculty of Health, Medicine & Social Care, Anglia Ruskin Uni
Pauline Shaw	-	Employee Link Service Advisor, NMC
Maria Whelan	-	Senior Operations Manager, NHS Mid & South Essex
Helen Cumbers (nee Wright)	-	Norfolk Care Careers Team, Norfolk County Council
Cheryl Hicks	-	Quality Improvement Nurse, Norfolk and Waveney ICB
Natalie Hammond	-	Director of Nursing and Quality, Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB
Carol Anderson	-	CNO for Cambridge & Bedford
Louise Jenkins	-	Strategic Liaison Nurse, Hertfordshire NHS
Lisa Read	-	Head of Place Quality (East & West) Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board. Attends on behalf of Tricia D'Orsi

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

Date of Future Meetings:

- Tuesday 27th January 2026, 09:30-11:00
- TBC April 2026

Summary Notes:

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Updates: Adem Oyekan provided a comprehensive update on behalf of Deborah Sturdy from the DHSC:

- **CNO Conference and Social Care Representation:** Adem highlighted the recent CNO conference, noting strong social care representation and a successful panel session led by our very own Co-Chair, Victoria and others, which focused on collaboration between the NHS and social care.
- **[Networks for Students and Newly Qualified Nurses:](#)** Adem announced the launch of a new network by the Council of Deans for students and newly qualified nurses, aimed at supporting their entry into adult social care, especially given the current job market challenges.
- **Nurse Prescribing Pilots:** Adem shared that the announcement of nurse prescribing pilots involving six ICB areas was expected imminently, describing this as an important step towards advanced practice and encouraging council members to look out for further details.
- **Nursing Strategy Consultation:** Adem urged all present to contribute to the Chief Nursing Officer's 10-year strategy consultation, which had been extended to 17th October (now closed), emphasising the importance of input from the social care sector and Victoria shared the link in the chat.
- **Upcoming Events and Organisational Changes:** Adem mentioned several upcoming events, including the Outstanding Society Parliamentary Reception in November, a



follow-up on the undergraduate placement strategy, and future conferences, as well as ongoing organisational changes within the DHSC and NHS England.

Education, Training, and Placement Strategy Developments: Victoria, Louise H, Phil, and others discussed the implementation of the Social Care Nursing Placement Strategy, new placement pathways, and collaborative efforts with universities and stakeholders to expand student nurse placements in social care settings.

- **Expansion of Student Placements:** Victoria inquired about new social care nursing placements, with Phil confirming ongoing work with UEA and Louise H reporting new placement pathways in SNEE, with plans to share learning and contacts for independent providers.
- **Resource Sharing and Stakeholder Engagement:** Louise H and Victoria discussed the importance of sharing resources and contacts to facilitate placements, especially for independent providers, and highlighted the need for ongoing communication and updates as the strategy develops.
- **Neighbourhood Plan and Regulatory Considerations:** Victoria summarised discussions from a recent Queen's Institute of Community Nursing (Qicn) meeting about the phased introduction of the neighbourhood plan, regulatory shifts, and the involvement of the new CQC Chief Executive, with Deborah Marquis confirming Peterborough's participation in phase one.
- **Student and Early Career Support:** Antonia raised questions about support for LD nurses and awareness of social care opportunities, with Victoria and Louise H outlining efforts to connect students with social care roles and the importance of preceptorship and placement experiences.

Preceptorship Programme Implementation and Quality Mark Achievement: Louise H provided an update on the Norfolk and Waveney ICB's preceptorship programme, detailing the achievement of the national preceptorship quality mark, plans for expansion, and the sharing of resources and best practices with other organisations, with input from Victoria, Phil, Sara, and others.

- **Quality Mark Award and Programme Details:** Louise H explained that four organisations in Norfolk and Waveney achieved the national preceptorship quality mark for nursing, describing the evidence required, the commitment to policy elements such as protected time, and the ongoing evaluation process.
- **Programme Expansion and Resource Sharing:** Louise H confirmed plans to roll out the programme to additional organisations, offered to share templates and resources, and described the centralised model involving clinical educators and a senior responsible officer from the ICB.
- **Challenges and Adaptations in Social Care:** Sara and Louise H discussed the challenges of adapting preceptorship language and criteria for social care, the importance of central support, and the need for tailored approaches for smaller or independent providers.
- **Long Arm Supervision and Collaborative Models:** Sandie, Sara, Louise H, and Phil explored the concept of long arm supervision for placements and preceptorship,



sharing examples from Suffolk and Norfolk, and discussing the potential for shared resources and innovative supervision models.

- **Student Engagement and Awareness:** Antonia and others highlighted the need to raise awareness of preceptorship and social care opportunities among students, with suggestions for university engagement, pre-preceptorship education, and the use of toolkits and resources.

Regional and National Priorities: Workforce Planning, Data, and Strategy:

- **Workforce Data Release:** Victoria announced the release of new social care workforce data from Skills for Care, explaining how it can be used for workforce planning and training, and encouraged council members to explore the data relevant to their sectors and regions.
- **Nursing Strategy Consultation and Deliberative Events:** Victoria and Louise H reflected on the recent CNO regional deliberative event, the openness of NHS England to ideas for the 10-year vision, and the importance of broad participation in the strategy consultation.
- **Diversity and Membership Engagement:** Victoria emphasised the need to increase representation from the global majority and underrepresented areas such as Hertfordshire, encouraging members to promote Council membership and contribute to the upcoming newsletter.

Resource Sharing, Events, and Communication Initiatives: Victoria, Sonia, Louise H, and Sarah coordinated the sharing of resources, upcoming events, and communication initiatives, including the newsletter, surveys, and opportunities for professional development and recognition.

- **Newsletter and Good News Stories:** Victoria invited contributions for the upcoming newsletter, aiming to feature updates on preceptorship, placements, and other regional initiatives, and encouraged sharing of good news stories and resources.
- **Surveys and Research Opportunities:** Victoria shared links to an [end-of-life care training needs survey](#) and a research internship opportunity, urging council members to disseminate these within their networks.
- **Events and Professional Development:** Sarah highlighted upcoming RCN events, including research and innovation sessions and Black History Month celebrations, and encouraged participation from independent and social care nurses.
- **Council Membership and Recognition:** Sonia reminded members to submit photos and bios for the Council website and mentioned the ongoing process for invitations to the parliamentary reception, with assurances that outcomes would be widely shared.

Clinical Placement Management System Development: Louise H announced the development of a clinical placement management system in Norfolk and Waveney, designed to track student placement activity across nursing, midwifery, and allied health professions, with plans for phased rollout and potential for broader application.

- **System Features and Rollout:** Louise H described the system's ability to track placements across three years, its initial pilot phase with acute and community trusts,



and plans to extend to primary care and social care, with the aim of mapping placement opportunities and outcomes.

- **Potential for Tracking Career Destinations:** Victoria and Louise H discussed the potential for the system to track conversion rates from placements to employment in adult social care and to serve as a preceptorship tracker, supporting workforce planning and evaluation.