



**LONDON Social Care Nursing
Advisory Council (SCNAC)
Virtual Quarterly Meeting 09
Wednesday 5th August 2026, 09:30-11:00**



<u>Attending:</u>		
Louise Keane	-	Regional Co-Chair for London
Joanna Grant	-	Regional Co-Chair for London
Lizzie Wallman	-	Interim CNO Southeast London
Vinice (Vi) Thomas	-	Director of Nursing & Quality, NHS England – London Region and Deputy CNO, Southeast London ICB, attending on behalf of Karen Bonner
Alyce Sheedy	-	Wellbeing Ambassador, Riverstone Living
Jennifer Caguloa	-	Senior Clinical Manager, NHS England
Jan Webb	-	Head of Nursing (Nursing Education & Regulatory Processes), University of Westminster
Laura Anthony	-	Senior Locality Manager for the London and Southeast team, Skills for Care
Mike Armstrong	-	Co-Chair, Care Providers Voice and Havering Care Homes
Monika Balciunaite	-	Head of Nursing, Domiciliary Care and Registered Manager, Royal Hospital Chelsea
Tawanda Bvumburai	-	Employer Link Service Advisor, NMC
Benedicta Okpor (Benny)	-	Social Care Nursing Clinical Practice Development Lead for Southeast London Integrated Care System
Pam Hodge	-	Senior Lecturer in Practice Learning, Middlesex University, London
Patricia Howell	-	Leadership Course with RCN
Peter Webb	-	London Care and Support (LCAS) Forum
Tawona Nhamo	-	Registered Manager, Homefield Nursing Home, Bromley
Beatrice Godfrey	-	General Manager, Southgate Beaumont Care Community (Barchester)
Julie Burton	-	Head of Operations, Twinglobal Care
Victor Awuja	-	Care Home Liaison Lead, Lewisham Hospital TOCH Team (Owen Centre), Community Services, Lewisham Council
Muyi Adekoya	-	Head of Market Development, Complex Care – Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) NHS Trust
Jacqueline Robinson-Rouse	-	Clinical Workforce Improvement Lead, Workforce, Training & Education Directorate, NHS England (Capital Nurse)
Dr Lorna Chesterton	-	University of Salford – presenting and recruiting participants for a GNCT study to develop consensus based Adult Social Care Nursing Placement Standards for the sector.

Dr Melanie Stephens	-	Associate Professor in Adult Nursing at the University of Salford – presenting and recruiting participants for a GNCT study to develop consensus based Adult Social Care Nursing Placement Standards for the sector.
Sonia Pritchard	-	EA for the Outstanding Society and SCNACs Administrator

<u>Apologies:</u>		
Karen Bonner	-	Regional Chief Nurse London
Rumer Gray	-	IHSC Lead Nurse, RCN
Nuno Santos-Lopes	-	Director of Care and Home Manager, KYN
Karen Chandler	-	University of Westminster
Kate Meacock	-	Person with Lived Experience and Campaigner, Rights for Residents
Holly Ashforth	-	Deputy Chief Nurse, Northwest London
Loucia Kyprianou	-	Regulation Advisor, Independent Health & Care, NMC
Celia Jeffreys	-	Deputy Director for Safeguarding Adults, NHS Northeast London
Margaret Ngugi	-	Learning Disabilities Nurse Lead Physical Health, Enfield Learning Disabilities Services

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

Date of Future Meetings:

- Wednesday 4th November 2026, 09:30-11:00
- Wednesday 3rd February 2027, 09:30-11:00

Meeting Summary:

Regional Chief Nurse Updates: Lizzie and Vi provided a comprehensive update on the July's CNO summit:

- **AI and Healthcare Integration:** Lizzie and Vi described presentations on the introduction of AI in healthcare, including technical challenges and opportunities. They noted the summit's focus on how AI could impact health and social care delivery.
- **Mental Health and Public Health Strategies:** Lizzie and Joanna emphasised the summit's attention to mental health and public health strategies, with discussions on how these areas are being prioritised in upcoming policy documents and the 10-year health plan.
- **NHS England Restructuring:** Vi explained the ongoing restructuring within NHS England, including the transition to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), recruitment into new structures, and the impact on ICB colleagues.
- **Support for Nurse Leaders:** The summit included a deep dive into the support available for strategic nurse leaders, particularly at deputy chief nurse and chief nurse levels, with a call for extending this support into social care.
- **Upcoming Policy and Staff Strategy:** Vi mentioned forthcoming policies and strategies, including a staff strategy expected later in the year, and committed to keeping the group informed about these developments.

GNCT Study on Social Care Nursing Placement Standards: Dr. Melanie Stevens and Dr. Laura Chesterton from Salford presented their GNCT-funded research aiming to develop consensus-based adult social care nursing placement standards, seeking participation from registered nurses, nursing associates, and managers across England and Wales.

- **Study Purpose and Scope:** Melanie and Laura explained the study's goal to create placement standards specifically for social care, not simply adapting NHS standards,

and outlined the need for evidence-based approaches to support nursing education in adult social care.

- **CARE Framework Development:** The team described the integrative literature review, expert consensus meetings, and the resulting CARE framework, which focuses on compassionate care, accountability, rights, evidence-based practice, and safety.
- **Delphi Study Participation:** Melanie detailed the Delphi study process, inviting participants to complete an online questionnaire rating the importance of standards, with a target of 380 responses, and explained the two-round feedback mechanism.
- **Technical Issues and Outreach:** Vi raised concerns about broken links in the survey materials, prompting Melanie to commit to checking and updating the links, and highlighted strong stakeholder interest in the project.
- **Follow Up:** More details of the study will be sent out with the meeting follow up. Council members were encouraged to share far and wide.

Leadership Programme for Adult Social Care Nurses: Louise updated the group on the development of a leadership programme for adult social care nurses in partnership with the Royal College of Nursing (RCN):

- **Programme Structure and Timeline:** Louise outlined the programme's format: a one-day event at RCN head office followed by six action learning sets over a year, with launch postponed to January or February to ensure co-production with nurses.
- **Inclusivity and Pricing:** The programme is designed to be financially accessible for individual nurses and open to nursing associates, reflecting the diverse leadership aspirations within adult social care.
- **Call for Working Party Members:** Louise invited council members interested in supporting or joining the working party to submit their details, emphasising the collaborative nature of the programme's development.

Research on Suicide in Older People in Adult Social Care: Progress was shared on a NIHR-funded research project investigating experiences of suicide in adult social care, inviting participation and offering regular updates to the group.

- **Research Collaboration and Scope:** Louise described the partnership with Middlesex University, Goldsmiths, and Glasgow colleagues, focusing on understanding support needs for nurses and carers dealing with suicide and 'tiredness of life' in adult social care.
- **Participant Recruitment and Communication:** Vi offered to circulate study information via newsletters and networks, and Louise encouraged members to refer potential participants or request further details.
- **Link to CNO Summit Discussions:** Joanna noted the relevance of the research to recent CNO summit conversations about supporting those considering ending their life, suggesting potential links for further collaboration.

IV Training and Vascular Access Upskilling in Social Care: The IV training initiative funded by the RCN Foundation was discussed:

- **Programme Funding and Structure:** Louise confirmed funding for 40 nurses to undertake IV training, starting with the Capital Nurse programme and progressing to bespoke training developed with Middlesex University.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** The project involves input from nurses, managers, residents, service users, and families, with simulation centre visits and feedback sessions shaping the training content.
- **Neighbourhood and Virtual Ward Collaboration:** Louise described efforts to engage neighbourhood teams and virtual wards, seeking support from members to facilitate communication and collaboration.

- **Vascular Access Standards Integration:** Jennifer offered to connect the team with the Chair of National Infusion for Vascular Access Society (NIVAS) and suggested incorporating recent vascular access standards and self-administration training into the curriculum.

Digital Skills and Electronic Medication Management: Louise and Joanna provided updates on digital skills development for the workforce:

- **Research Collaboration:** Louise reported outreach to a Sheffield University researcher specialising in digital skills, with a meeting planned in the coming weeks and an open invitation for members to join.
- **EMA Management Integration:** Joanna explained that electronic medication administration records are part of the digital skills work stream, aiming to prepare both current and future workforce for technological advancements.

Transition of Young People with Complex Needs into Adult Social Care: Joanna updated the group on efforts to address the transition of young people and children with complex needs into adult social care, proposing focus groups to identify quality improvement opportunities and inviting participation with suggested focus groups to gather insights from London and wider areas.

Skills for Care Placement Strategy and Nursing Networks: Laura Anthony from Skills for Care presented on current priorities:

- **Placement Strategy Implementation:** Laura described the strategy's aim to strengthen connexions between students, universities, and care providers, with checklists and gold standard commendations for HEIs and providers.
- **Preceptorship Programme Expansion:** Skills for Care is running workshops to help providers develop preceptorship programmes, with ongoing support through bi-monthly communities of practise.
- **Nursing Forums and Networks:** Laura outlined the range of forums and networks available, including education, workforce, global majority, and student nurse networks, encouraging members to join and access development opportunities.
- **Data and Resource Availability:** Skills for Care collects workforce data and offers newsletters, online resources, and guides to support nursing education and career development in adult social care.

NMC Employer Link Service and Fitness to Practise Insights: Tawanda delivered a detailed presentation:

- **Employer Link Service Role:** Tawanda explained the advisory and support functions of the Employer Link Service, including the advice line for employers, learning sessions on regulatory topics, and efforts to increase NMC presence in independent health and social care.
- **Fitness to Practise and Referral Patterns:** Tawanda provided statistics on referral sources, noting that most referrals come from the public, with 72% closed at the initial stage, and discussed the impact of COVID on referral volumes.
- **Common Concerns and Themes:** Key issues identified include accountability and delegation, medication errors, appropriate resident placements, and misconceptions about the NMC's role, with ongoing work to address these through collaboration with CQC and advisory teams.
- **Advice Line Awareness and Usage:** Louise and Joanna discussed low usage of the advice line, attributing it to lack of awareness among non-nurse managers, and Tawanda emphasised the need for greater outreach and education.

- **Engagement with Forums and Education:** Pam Hodge and Beatrice suggested increased NMC engagement with student forums and provider networks, with Tawanda expressing willingness to attend and present at such events to improve understanding and reduce unnecessary referrals.
- **Follow Up:** Tawanda to share her presentation with Sonia to be included in the follow up sent to council.

Council Membership and Representation: Joanna and Louise led a discussion on improving council membership and representation:

- **Student Representation:** Jan offered to help facilitate student representation in the council, with plans to link in with new cohorts in September.
- **Staff Turnover Challenges:** Benedicta noted high turnover among care home managers, emphasising the need for ongoing recruitment and engagement efforts.
- **Registration and Outreach:** Sonia encouraged members to complete the council registration form and share it with interested contacts, aiming to streamline recruitment and engagement.

Cross-Council Communication and Updates: Louise and Joanna addressed the need for improved communication across all regional councils, outlining ongoing efforts to keep members informed about activities in other councils despite limited funds, and inviting members to contribute expertise. Louise explained that the SCNACs are working on mechanisms to share updates from other councils, balancing resource constraints and member interest in national and neighbouring council activities.

Additional Information:

From: Lorna Chesterton <L.Chesterton3@salford.ac.uk>

Sent: 29 July 2026 17:02

Subject: Request to support dissemination of the Standards Setting questionnaire

Dear Colleague,

We are inviting you to take part in an important national study, funded by the General Nursing Council Trust (GNCT) to help shape the future of nursing, and nurse associate student placements in adult social care.

As part of this work, we have developed a set of draft **Standards for Nursing Student Placements in Social Care Learning Environments**. These standards have been produced to help social care organisations recognise, prepare, support and sustain placements for nursing students and nursing associate students. We have presented these standards around a model called **The CARES framework**

You are invited to participate if you are a: Nursing and Midwifery Council Registered Nurse; Nursing Associate or Registered Manager with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in England, or Social Care Wales, or working in, or directly supporting, adult social care in England or Wales through practice, education or policy.

We would be grateful if you could complete the questionnaire which takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Your responses will be analysed and used to develop a second-round questionnaire. If you choose to continue participating, you will be invited to review your original ratings alongside the group's responses before providing your final ratings.

Please note that this questionnaire is not intended for staff working in services that provide care **into** adult social care settings, such as community nursing, Hospital at Home, virtual wards, GP nursing teams or frailty teams.

Your expertise and experience are invaluable to this work, and we would greatly appreciate your contribution. Here's the link to the survey: <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/salford/standards-for-student-nurse-placements-in-social-care>



If you wish to know more about the project, we have produced a short video telling you how we developed the standards, which is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nCr1sgMG0>

Please could you share this email with all your networks and colleagues working in social care

Thank you in advance for your help with this
With best wishes

Lorna

Dr Lorna Chesterton

PhD, MSc, BSc(hons) QN, DN, RGN

Researcher in Nursing, School of Health and Society, MS354 Mary Seacole Building, University of Salford

[Go to home page](#)



Join us to explore nurse prescribing in adult social care

Wednesday 14 October | 14:00 15:00 | online

Nurse prescribing has the potential to improving access to medicines, improve person-centred care and make the best use of nursing expertise in adult social care settings.

Whether you're a registered nurse, employer, workforce lead or educator, this event is an opportunity to explore how prescribing can strengthen services and support better outcomes for people drawing on care.

The session will bring together experts to share current developments, practical insights and examples of how nurse prescribing is being implemented across adult social care.

You'll gain a better understanding of the opportunities, challenges and support available to develop prescribing roles within your organisation.

[Find out more and book your place](#)

[\(https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/news-and-events/Events/October/Nurse-prescribing-in-adult-social-care.aspx\)](https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/news-and-events/Events/October/Nurse-prescribing-in-adult-social-care.aspx)

Calling all nurses and support care workers

Climate change presents an immediate and growing threat to health. You, as nurses and support care workers alongside those working in the NHS, are the biggest solution to improving sustainability in health and care.

Find out how you can make a difference by scanning the QR codes below.



Connect, share insights and promote greener practices with the **Greener NHS Sustainability Futures Knowledge Hub**. Here, you can access tools, training, case studies and much more. Scan the QR code to begin!

The Circular Economy: Opting for Reusable Health Care Products

NHS Supply Chain is dedicated to supporting the NHS and partners in care to reach its net zero targets. We recognise our cross-functional role and the power of collaboration to influence positive change.



Scan the QR code to visit the **NHS Supply Chain's Sustainability Opportunities** webpage

Discover innovative choices backed by data and real-world success stories.



What's Next?

Visit the links below to find out more.



Register with the National Nursing and Midwifery Sustainability Network

Providing guidance, resources and advocacy so that nurses and midwives can drive high quality, equitable, lower carbon and resilient healthcare systems.



Scan here for resources on sustainable nursing - from books and reports to journal articles and more

Scan to discover how the RCN is empowering nurses to lead climate action and build a sustainable future for health and care.



Develop tangible changes with the Design for Life roadmap

Design for Life aims to reduce single-use devices, improve capacity and deliver the right products at the right price. It's also exploring changes to innovative product design and regulations.



Sign up for the Nursing and Midwifery bulletin from the Chief Nursing Officer

Provides key information for nursing, midwifery and care staff with a focus on workforce, leadership and other important updates.