
**HPMA awards 2018 – we’re looking for entries for the SPF sponsored partnership award**

The HPMA awards 2018 were launched at the 2017 HPMA conference. The SPF is proud once again to sponsor the partnership award, recognising and rewarding outstanding examples of partnership working between employers and trade unions. Our handy guide to submitting a winning entry will support you in your application, and our flyer can be downloaded to encourage entries to the partnership award. For further information on how to apply, please visit the SPF website.

**SPF Strategic Group**

The latest SPF Strategic Group meeting on 6 December featured a Health Education England (HEE) led discussion on the draft national workforce strategy, which was published on 13 December for further consultation. Trade union representatives met with HEE and NHS Employers on 22 November to get involved in the development of the strategy and welcomed the early engagement. Strategic Group has offered to help co-ordinate work in the following areas: careers not jobs; workplace culture/model employer; supporting line managers; workforce equality and non-clinical workforce. The SPF response to the draft workforce strategy is on the SPF website.

This was followed by a discussion on routes into nursing led by Department of Health and an update from Jeremy Marlow in NHS Improvement on the Carter review team’s work and related engagement activity. NHS England provided an update on system transformation and the ongoing programme of SPF visits to Accountable Care Systems (ACSs), the latest of which was to Nottinghamshire ACS on 7 December. The meeting reflected very positively on the SPF creating positive cultures summit on 28 November, and members reaffirmed SPF’s priorities for the coming 18 months as set out in the letter to regional SPF co-chairs on 2 November.

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SPF creating positive cultures summit

The SPF creating positive cultures summit took place on 28 November 2017. The summit was opened by health minister, Philip Dunne, who provided his support and ongoing commitment to the SPF’s *tackling bullying in the NHS: a collective call to action*. Panels comprised of National SPF and partners from Arm’s Length Bodies, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) presented *slides* which linked the CQC well-led domain inspections to the call action. A world café enabling delegates to engage in a number of topics and successful initiatives, and a gallery of practice posters were all well received.

Delegates voted on the next steps and priorities, with line management development being the most popular priority to take forward in year two of the call to action. Further detail on the summit, including the practice posters, will be published on the SPF tackling bullying web page in the new year.

CQC and SPF meeting

The SPF met with CQC Chief Inspectors Ted Baker and Andrea Sutcliffe to discuss the links with the *tackling bullying: a collective call to action* and the well-led domain. They also discussed the CQC and NHS Improvements joint plans to assess how NHS trusts use their resources consultation. The action note can be found on the SPF website.

@NationalSPF supported anti-bullying week

The SPF supported #AntiBullyingWeek on twitter, where we shared tools, resources and case studies from our call to action web page. The resources are designed to support NHS organisations to tackle bullying and improve workplace culture. Chesterfield Royal Hospital also joined the twitter conversation, confirming they had signed the *tackling bullying: call to action* to mark #AntiBullyingWeek.

North SPF conference

The North SPF held their biannual conference on 15 September. The conference, *Working in partnership to tackle the wicked issues*, focused on shifting the balance of care from hospital to community, the pressures on the workforce and financial constraints around this and the roles being developed to support new ways of working.

Chaired by Charlie Carruth, Regional Officer, Unison and Rosie Johnson, Executive Director of Workforce and OD, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS FT, the conference was attended by 53 delegates including HR directors, trade unions, clinical commissioners and other key stakeholders. Key communications from the conference are available on the SPF website.
**System change – jargon buster**

The SPF jargon buster has been created in partnership to help NHS colleagues navigate system change. You can see the latest version of the jargon buster on the [SPF website](#).

**Embedding Partnership Working Group (EPWG)**

The EPWG met on 4 December. Colleagues discussed the success of the creating positive cultures summit; partnership working arrangements in sustainability and transformation partnerships and accountable care systems (ACS); the key findings to focus on from the forthcoming 2017 NHS staff survey results and the SPF national workforce priorities to March 2019. The [About SPF](#) web page has been updated to include these priorities.

**RCN – promoting partnership working**

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) has released a short film [promoting partnership working](#), which was filmed in a community mental health setting in Northampton. It shows the effective way that unions and employers can work together to transform workplace culture, as well as delivering high quality patient care.

**Partnership in practice**

We are keen to include examples of good partnership working between employers and trade unions on our website. If you have examples of good practice or case studies that you think would be useful to share, please send details in an email marked good practice to: [webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org](mailto:webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org).

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*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*