
Wider Group update

The latest SPF Wider Group meeting was held in the Houses of Parliament on Tuesday 10 July, chaired by healthcare minister Caroline Dinenage. During the meeting NHS staff side chair Sara Gorton reflected on the recently-agreed Agenda for Change pay deal and reform package and the work that will continue with the SPF to improve workplace culture and wellbeing for NHS staff. Amanda Oates and Mandi Gregory from Mersey Care NHS FT presented on their HPMA award-winning partnership initiative to embed a just and learning culture in their organisation and Jon Restell updated the meeting on the SPF-led call to action to tackle bullying in the NHS. Members commented positively on the NHS recruitment campaign which Phil Bastable from NHS England led.

For more information, see the Wider Group meeting key comms.

NHS recruitment campaign

To mark the NHS’ 70th birthday, a recruitment campaign was launched by NHS England and DHSC. The campaign aims to increase positive perceptions of working for the NHS and motivate the audience to take up a career in nursing. SPF encourages partners to promote the campaign through their own communication channels.

HEE are also running a recruitment campaign to encourage more applications to nursing and allied health professions (AHPs) pre-registration courses. This launched on the 23 May and will continue to university clearing in August.

Trade union facility time

In line with the new regulations, employers must publish information on facility time before the 31 July. For more information and government guidance on facility time see the NHS Employers website. A report on the value of trade union facility time is available on the SPF website.
Topol review – call for evidence
The Topol Review is exploring how to prepare the healthcare workforce, through education and training, to deliver the digital future. SPF encourages partners to contribute to the Topol review call for evidence, the review closes 29 August at 12pm.

Workforce Issues Group (WIG)

The latest WIG meeting took place on 16 July. Partners discussed the SPF’s webinar on the role of line managers in tackling bullying; NHS England presented on the impact of bullying on NHS staff and the patient care they provide, and commented on plans to change the way national NHS Staff Survey results are presented.

WIG partners are also looking for examples of successful partnership working in STPs, ICSs and other initiatives to better integrate healthcare, as part of our work on de-risking change. If you know of any examples of good practice, please email us at webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org

NHS Employers briefing - use of staff survey data

The SPF encourages employers and trade unions to use data from their organisation’s staff survey results and the other data sources mentioned in NHS Employers’ briefing: using your NHS staff survey data, as part of efforts to create positive workplace cultures and tackle bullying.

Creating the North East SPF – an exemplar model to follow

A case study showing the development of North East SPF is now available on the SPF website. This is a useful guide for others wishing to set up partnership forums involving multiple organisations, such as sustainability and transformation partnerships.

SPF national action log

The SPF national action log features SPF’s aims and key developments. The July action log is now available on the SPF website.