
**Workforce Engagement/Experience Workshop**

The SPF held a workshop on 4 September to discuss Secretary of State’s (SofS) thinking on, and commitment to workforce engagement, including the launch of a new digital engagement platform, *Talk Health and Care*. All health and care staff across England can use the digital platform to feedback on any issues and concerns and share how they can be better supported at work. The SPF remains a primary vehicle for workforce engagement and the Strategic Group co-chairs will be invited to provide blogs for the platform. At the workshop the SPF was asked to take forward work around the *Working Without Fear* challenge posed by SofS, which includes tackling violence against staff. The workshop also included an initial discussion on workforce engagement around the *NHS Long-Term Plan*.

**Strategic Group meeting**

The latest SPF Strategic Group meeting took place on 14 September. During the meeting the group discussed the SofS workforce engagement plans and the newly launched digital engagement platform, *Talk Health and Care*. NHS England and NHS Improvement updated on the *NHS Long-Term Plan* consultation and on the closer alignment of the two organisations, including plans for a joint chief people officer role. Health Education England (EEE) led updates on the Topol Review and the draft workforce strategy. There were further discussions on preparing for winter, tackling violence at work, and wholly-owned subsidiaries.

**Talk Health and Care portal**

As mentioned above, Secretary of State for Health, Matt Hancock, has launched the *Talk Health and Care* platform so that people who work in the health and care system can share their views. The SPF recommends employers and trade union representatives in NHS organisations discuss the five challenges mentioned on the platform and identify action that could be carried out locally, and what needs to be addressed at a national level and should be raised with SofS.
BMA conference
The BMA is hosting a one-day conference on bullying and harassment and what can be done to create a supportive and inclusive culture. The conference will take place on Thursday 1 November at BMA House, London. If you would like to attend, please register here.

Flu fighter letter
The SPF co-chairs and clinical and professional leaders signed a letter to NHS chief executives encouraging a social partnership approach to encouraging staff to get vaccinated and to understanding why some staff decline the vaccine. Read more on the SPF flu fighter web page.

SPF heat check 2018
Partners fed back their views on strategic group, wider group, workforce issues group and national regional group. Results have been published in the SPF heat check 2018.

Developing the long term plan for the NHS: Tell us what you think
The Prime Minister set out a funding settlement for the NHS in England for the next five years. In return, the NHS has been asked to set out a long-term plan for the future of the NHS. The plan will set out our ambitions for improvement over the next decade, and a plan to meet those ambitions over the five years of the funding settlement. As part of this process it is vital that all those who rely on and work in or alongside the NHS have the opportunity to contribute their ideas and insights. Please submit your response to the NHS England portal by 30 September.

Integrated Care Provider (ICP) contract consultation
NHS England has launched a consultation on the ICP contract. The consultation provides more detail about how the proposed ICP contract would underpin integration between services, how it differs from existing NHS contracts, and how ICPs fit into the broader commissioning system. Please submit your response to the NHS England website by 26 October.

Partnership in practice
We are keen to include examples of good partnership working from regional and local SPFs on the SPF website. If you have examples of good practice or case studies that you think would be useful to share with SPF colleagues, please send details in an email marked good practice to: webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org.

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