The Social Partnership Forum brings together NHS Employers, NHS trade unions, Health Education England, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to contribute to the development and implementation of policy that impacts on the health workforce.

2020 HPMA awards launch
The SPF is proud to once again sponsor the 2020 HPMA award for partnership working between employers and trade unions. The award identifies, celebrates and promotes partnership working, highlighting great initiatives and sharing learning through good practice case studies. If you have an example in your organisation of successful partnership working, why not submit an entry? Or, if you are aware of others who are working in partnership, please encourage them involved to enter. For more information on how to enter, see our 2020 HPMA Award web page.

Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the 2019 partnership award winner, shared a top tip for anyone considering entering the award:

‘If management and staff side have developed a successful initiative within your organisation that focuses on real issues that staff care about - we recommend you enter the HPMA award for partnership working. It is important to raise awareness about the benefits of partnership working across organisations so that other trusts can learn from your success’, Terry Roberts, Director of OD, Hillingdon Foundation Trust.

The closing date for entries for the 2020 award is 18 Feb 2020 at 5pm. Good luck!

BMA- mental wellbeing resource
The British Medical Association (BMA) has developed a new charter to support the mental wellbeing of doctors and medical students. The charter sets out the steps employers can take to implement a supportive culture, in which the health and wellbeing of staff is prioritised and any stigma around mental ill-health is tackled.
Update on the SPF people plan workshop
A second national SPF workshop was held on 21 October 2019. The workshop enabled partners to hear from People Plan workstream leads and contribute to the progression of actions in the People Plan on workforce re-design, growing the future workforce, releasing time for care, making the NHS the best place to work and a new operating model for the NHS.

NHSE/I core offer feedback portal
NHSE/I is reaching out to the NHS workforce inviting them to share their thoughts on making the NHS the best place to work. They want to hear views from a wide range of people which they will use to develop a new core offer. Feedback can be submitted to their online portal until 30 November 2019. NHSE/I has also challenged the NHS workforce on the Talk Health and Care platform to tell them “what would make the NHS the best place to work for you?”. All ideas and comments will also be fed into the core offer.

Make or Break: Incivility in the workplace
Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust has developed a video that shows how incivility can negatively impact on staff working in the NHS, and the positive benefits of active kindness. Watch the video to see how incivility affects the workforce and how that can impact patient safety.

Whistleblowers’ Support Scheme
The NHS Whistleblowers’ Support Scheme is now open for new applications with a closing date of 5 January 2020. The scheme provides confidential, practical support and advice for NHS workers – current and former – who can demonstrate they are having difficulty finding suitable employment in the NHS as a result of raising a concern in the public interest. For more information, see the NHS Improvement website.

Web updates:
• SPF structure infographic
  We have updated our popular infographic setting out how the National SPF and its sub groups work together to support partnership working in the NHS.
• SPF members handbook
  The SPF members handbook has been updated. The handbook outlines the purpose of the SPF, the role of partners and how members of the forum can get involved to support its aims. The handbook also provides practical information on the SPF’s detailed working arrangements and the membership of the SPF Strategic Group and Wider Group.

Follow us on twitter @NationalSPF and join the conversation #SPFnh