

# Key Communications

## 5 December 2019

### North West SPF Sub Group

#### Welcome & context

Welcome to the key communications from the North West Social Partnership Forum, which is a Sub Group of the North of England SPF. The meeting was held at UNISON NW Regional Offices, Manchester.

#### Principles of Engagement

The NW SPF took forward a discussion around the importance of timeliness regarding partnership engagement, particularly around change happening at a system level, where it effects more than just an individual organisation level. This came about following concerns from colleagues that some recent larger scale changes such as cervical cytology screening services relocation led by NHS England/Improvement and organisational mergers. Colleagues discussed developing some principles of engagement and it was agreed to pool all the different resources out there already and continue the discussion at the next meeting in February.

#### Band 1 transition

NHS Employers have been commissioned to offer some additional support to NHS organisations with the work transitioning staff from band 1 to band 2. Interactive facilitated workshop sessions will offer employers practical support with the transfer and help to realise the benefits. NHSE/I are expected to start looking more closely at progress on this area of workforce. The structure will be a series of three workshops, held in January, March and June, at various venues across the country and provisional dates currently being finalised. Please note only one representative per trust may attend and it is anticipated that the representative will attend all three workshops. For more information or to register your interest, please email - [zoe.dunning@nhsemployers.org](mailto:zoe.dunning@nhsemployers.org)

#### Job Matching Training

The forum discussed job matching training in relation to the apparent demand for trained matchers, following the national Job Evaluation Group (JEG) considering how best it can support local JE trainers who were accredited back in 2004/5 so they can train others to current standards. Colleagues were interested in understanding the potential demand and agreed to explore the shared regional job matching training model used in Yorkshire and Humber.

#### Menopause

The forum discussed whether there had been any follow on from the previous presentation by Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS FT, around workplace support for staff going through the menopause. It was requested that trusts across the NW share what they are doing

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around a menopause policy/initiative and to invite trusts to share what they are doing at future meetings.

#### **NHS England/NHS Improvement update**

Anthony Hassall, newly appointed regional director of workforce and OD for the NW joined the meeting for the first time. Colleagues welcomed him to the meeting and look forward to working with him when he commences post on 6<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **Next meeting date, time & location**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020, UNISON NW, Manchester