

social partnership forum bulletin

March 2021

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

SPF Conference - Positive partnership working through COVID and beyond

Bookings are open for our virtual event taking place on Wednesday 31 March. This is the first Social Partnership Forum (SPF) conference that brings together the national, regional, and local partnership forums, with workforce leaders, employers and trade unions. The conference will reflect on positive partnership working through COVID and beyond, and will share learning and good practice from the NHS and social care response to the COVID19 pandemic.

Find a full agenda for the day and further information on attending [on our website](#)

HPMA Awards 2021

The SPF is proud to sponsor the [2021 HPMA Excellence in People](#) award for partnership working, celebrating initiatives that exemplify the benefits of employers and trade unions working together to overcome challenges and develop solutions. If you have an initiative that showcases the benefits of partnership working, then please submit an entry for this year's award.

Read more about the award, and how to enter, over on our [HPMA page](#).

Violence Prevention and Reduction Standard

A key change to the [2021-22 NHS Standard Contract](#) is that a provider must have regard to the NHS Violence Prevention and Reduction Standard. The standard, which was developed in partnership with the SPF, delivers a risk-based framework that supports a safe and secure working environment for NHS staff, safeguarding them against abuse, aggression, and violence. For more information on the standard and to access a copy, see the [SPF website](#).

SPF Strategic Group – 17 March

Em Wilkinson-Brice, Tom Simons and Laura Norris, NHSEI, and Mike Haslam, DHSC, spoke on NHS workforce recovery in the context of the recovery of NHS services. Richard Ashworth, Clare Enston and Zoe Evans, NHSEI, joined to update on the [2020 NHS Staff Survey results](#), which were published on 11 March. Alan Robson and Mike Haslam, DHSC, and Mark Radford, HEE, reported on the progress of the 50k nurses project.

SPF COVID-19 Engagement Group – 9 March

Tom Simons, NHSEI, gave an update on the [vaccination programme](#), and to answer questions from the group about the programme. Dido Harding joined the group to update on the Test and Trace programme, including the app, and the role this will play in supporting the government roadmap out of lockdown.

SPF Wider Group – 25 February

Philippa Baker, DHSC, joined the group to discuss the [white paper/health and social care bill](#), published 11 February. Dr Jonathan Leach and Tom Simons, NHSEI, joined to discuss progress of the COVID19 vaccination programme, include uptake among staff. Mark Appleby and Nicki Goff from Yeovil District Hospital NHS FT, presented their HPMA award nominated [HR Policy Manual](#).

For latest resources and guidance on the COVID-19 vaccination programme, visit the [NHSEI website](#), and find resources and guidance to help workforce leaders in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on the [NHS Employers website](#).

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