



SPF BULLETIN – AUGUST 2013

Social Partnership Forum

The Social Partnership Forum (SPF) brings together NHS employers, trade unions and the Department of Health and other key organisations to discuss, debate and involve partners in the development and implementation of the workforce implications of policy.

Welcome

This is the third bulletin of 2013. Since the last bulletin, published in May, the SPF has continued discussions on the findings of the Francis Inquiry Report into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust and the Government response 'Putting Patients First'. A Francis subgroup of the SPF was set up in June. One of its aims is to maintain a focus on the culture change required to ensure compassionate care is delivered across the NHS. The SPF Stocktake event took place on 2nd July in London, which focussed on embedding regional partnership working into the new NHS architecture. The event proved to be successful and the evaluation report is currently being drawn up.

In addition the forum will consider the workforce implications of a number of important documents/initiatives that have recently been published including:

- Professor Sir Bruce Keogh's review into the way the NHS responds to and receives emergency patients: High quality care for all, now and for future generations: Engagement on the Urgent and Emergency Care Review.
- Professor Don Berwick's review into patient safety following the publication of the Francis Report into the breakdown of care at Mid Staffordshire Hospitals:
- The Cavendish Review into Healthcare Assistants and Support Workers in the NHS and social care settings.
- NHS England's A Call to Action.

The bulletin provides information on the latest news and developments from the SPF and its subgroups, which partners might usefully disseminate to their wider membership networks.

We welcome feedback on this bulletin and input into future bulletins - we are particularly keen to include examples of good partnership working from regional or local Social Partnership Forums. If you have examples of good practice or case studies

that you think would be useful to share with SPF colleagues, please send an email marked 'good practice' to: webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org

SPF stocktake event

The SPF regional stocktake event 'Better Together-improving patient care through regional social partnerships' took place on July 2nd, at Church House, Westminster, London. Dr Dan Poulter, Parliamentary under Secretary of State for Health, welcomed delegates to the event and in the opening speech of the day highlighted the vital role that social partnerships at all levels had played in helping to steer the service safely through transition and into the new healthcare system. He thanked all present who had played a part in what was a difficult process. Dean Royles, NHS Employers, Jon Skewes, RCM, Ian Cumming, Health Education England, Helen Bullers, NHS England and Karen Charman, NHS Employers each provided their thoughts on regional partnership working and the benefits this could bring. Participants were given several tasks to complete throughout the day, including a Regional Raid to find out the current state of other region's SPF's; looking at what was working well and what needed to improve; and identifying three main things needed for a regional SPF to be successful. The common themes that came from the day were that all regions wanted to improve the links between the regional forums and the national SPF. This was seen as crucial in helping to ensure more active engagement in the regional partnerships. Attendees also stressed the importance of their forum's Terms of Reference be reviewed to ensure new NHS organisations were incorporated and also to link the regional SPF work plans to the national agenda. The stocktake evaluation report will be presented at the national SPF on 3rd September, with work ongoing at a regional and national level to ensure partnership working is effective and adds value.

SPF Website Review

The SPF website was first launched in 2009, and is a critical tool in providing a single place for the joint work of the forum to be published. The website is, however, old in terms of technology and appearance, with much of its content requiring review and archiving. The SPF team are currently undertaking a full review of the website, updating and creating relevant pages, archiving the work done during the transition period, and reviewing the navigation pane, to produce a more logical listing of the content available to ensure visitors get the maximum value from their experience. Once the new website has been designed, it will be hosted on a new platform so that the physical appearance of the website will be improved, with enhanced visuals and a wide range of plug-ins. The new website is due to be completed and launched in 2014.

If you have any suggestions on how we could improve the SPF website to better help support partnership working in the NHS then please send an email marked 'SPF website' to: rachel.heyes@nhsemployers.org

Flu Fighter Campaign

NHS Employers, working with SPF partners, are once again running the national staff flu vaccination programme providing support, advice and guidance to encourage staff to be vaccinated against flu.

Further specific work has been completed to support ambulance service, mental health and community health trusts, trust types that routinely struggle to achieve uptake above the national average. The flu fighter programme team have gathered examples of best practice in these trust types from across the NHS and have shared these in a webinar attended by 78 flu leads from across the NHS. Engagement from across the NHS with the programme has increased since 2012/13, which is evidenced by an increase in orders for printed campaign materials in the lead up to the flu season. For more detail on the 2013/14 SPF Flu Fighter Campaign see the [SPF website](#) and also [Flu Plan 2013/14](#).

Learning for Life Campaign

Last year the SPF tasked NHS Employers with the delivery of a campaign to increase workplace learning. We are pleased to announce that NHS Employers, in partnership with NHS Trade Unions, Skills for Health and the Department of Health, have launched the new Workplace Learning Campaign - Learning for Life. Aimed at embedding a culture of learning across the NHS, this campaign supports employees in their personal development, their employment role and their career progression. Resources and campaign materials have been developed to help NHS organisation deliver local campaigns including an interactive toolkit that contains case studies, key messages for different target audiences, advice on overcoming barriers and examples of learning agreements and how organisations can work with their Union Learning Reps (ULRs). [Read more on the Social Partnership Forum Website](#)

Bridging the gap Campaign

The Whistleblowing Helpline have published a report on their Bridging the Gap campaign, which aims to make whistleblowing safer and more effective. Details on the campaign and a link to the full report, with an executive summary and recommendations are available on the [SPF website](#).

Subgroup updates

Staff Passport Subgroup (SPG)

The Staff Passport Subgroup continues to take forward the Partnership Review of access to the NHS Pension Scheme which is part of the Reforming the NHS Pensions Scheme for England and Wales Proposed Final Agreement. Information on the proposed approach to allow non-NHS organisations providing NHS clinical services to have access to the NHS Pension Scheme along with FAQs on the New Fair Deal are

available on the [SPF website](#). The latter give details of the pension arrangements for staff when they are transferred to a non-NHS organisation. The New Fair Deal will officially be launched following the publication of Treasury guidance, covering all public sector pension schemes, which is due in September although there are currently provisional arrangements in place for the NHS. Read more about the New Fair Deal in the FAQ's [here](#).

The subgroup is also engaged on the workforce aspects of a number of policy areas including the FT pipeline, the NHS England standard contract, pricing and procurement.

Embedding Partnership Working Subgroup (EPWG)

The Embedding Partnership Working Subgroup led the work of the regional SPF Stocktake. The group is now consulting on the stocktake evaluation report which is due to be presented at the national SPF on 3 September.

The SPF Communications Toolkit, developed by the EPWG, supports partners' promotion of the SPF and partnership working, through their own communication channels. A number of promotional resources have been developed including: a conference handout; a case study handout, which provides a summary of key case studies that are available on the SPF website; a key messages document; a power point presentation; and SPF banner stands.

If you have any questions or would like to use the Toolkit, please contact: webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org

Francis Subgroup

The first Francis subgroup met on 11 June. The subgroup's membership, Terms of Reference and the key work streams it would take forward in light of the Francis Report recommendations were discussed. At the second meeting Michael West from Lancaster University spoke about staff engagement and the work he had been involved with, on the NHS Staff Survey. He highlighted the clear relationship found between staff satisfaction and patient care and the role senior members of staff and human resource managers could play in emphasising the importance of patient safety and the quality of care in their organisation. A key area agreed to be taken forward by the Francis Subgroup included staffing levels. A workshop was held on 7 August which looked at some issues around safe staffing levels.

National SPF meetings

One national wider group meeting has taken place since the last SPF bulletin.

June SPF

The meeting was chaired by Dr Dan Poulter, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health. The Francis report, the SPF Workplace Learning Campaign and Electronic Staff

Records (ESR) were just some of the issues discussed. There were also updates from NHS Leadership Academy, NHS England and Health Education England . The North Region SPF attended and provided a short update on their work from a regional perspective.

Read more on the topics discussed at the National SPF [here](#).

HPMA Partnership Award Winner 2013

The annual Healthcare People Management Awards evening was held on 27th June in London. Each year the Social Partnership Forum sponsors the Partnership Working award. This year the award went to Serena Barnatt and Ross McCulloch from West Dunbartonshire Community Health and Care Partnership, for their development of an integrated Health and Social Care Partnership.

SPF Project Manager

From 1st July SPF partners welcomed Victoria Smith to her new role as the SPF Project Manager. Victoria will work closely with the chairs of each of the SPF partners and subgroups to ensure the effective management and delivery of work streams in partnership.

Workshop Updates

NHS Constitution workshop

An NHS Constitution workshop will take place on 22nd August. The workshops main focus is to discuss in further detail how to promote the Constitution, to give it a greater level of awareness amongst staff and to make it more clear and meaningful.

Migrant access workshop

The Migrant Access workshop will take place on 21 August. It will include discussions around the consultation on charging migrants and overseas visitors to use the NHS and how better to identify patients who should be charged. The Department of Health are running a consultation until 28th August and details :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/migrants-and-overseas-visitors-use-of-the-nhs>.

Technology Workshop

A Technology workshop designed by partners will be held on 23 September, aims to support the work of the NHS Technology Challenge set out by Secretary of State last December. If you would like to attend this workshop please contact Rachel Heyes via email, rachel.heyes@nhsemployers.org.

For the latest information on the work of the SPF, please visit our website:

www.socialpartnershipforum.org

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