



**The Social Partnership Forum brings together NHS Employers, NHS trade unions, NHS England, Health Education England and the Department of Health to debate the development and implementation of the workforce implications of policy**

## **SPF Strategic Group**

The latest SPF Strategic Group meeting was held on 8 December 2014. Discussions centred on [7-day Services](#), NHS 5-year Forward View; and the need for an underpinning workforce strategy to which partners agreed to devote a separate meeting in the New Year. The group also discussed DH's visitor and migrant cost recovery programme and there were initial discussions on the Group's prospective 2015 work plan. SPF agreed that early in 2015 it would discuss: workforce race equality standard, HEE's national workforce plan, CQC inspection regime, and NHS staff survey.

## **Staff Passport Group**

The Staff Passport Group looks at the workforce implications of NHS Reform policy. The group has continued to be involved in discussions around the NHS Standard Contract. At the meeting in November they were given a presentation on the Workforce Race Equality Standard, developed as part of the NHS Standard Contract, which is in the final stages of [consultation](#). The group also ran a stakeholder workshop on 30 September on New Fair Deal and ACCESS, the write-up from which can be accessed [here](#).

**Case Study: Genuine Partnership Working Between Employers and Trade (HSCIC) - [Find out how the HSCIS worked together in partnership](#)** with employers and trade unions, through the establishment of their Shadow Partnership Forum.

**The first Yorkshire and Humber SPF sub-group** meeting took place on the 21 November 2014 and was well attended by management and staff side. More information about the first meeting and the sub group can be found [here](#).

## *Inside this issue*

**SPF Strategic Group**  
**Staff Passport Group update**  
**Launch of 2015 HPMA awards**  
**Launch of Yorkshire and Humber SPF**  
**Duty of Candour & Fit and Proper persons**  
**test**  
**Hello Danny Mortimer**  
**Goodbye Pam Johnson**  
**Partnership working case study - HSCIC**



### **Launch of the 2015 HPMA awards**

Once again the SPF has sponsored the Partnership Award, which recognises good examples of partnership working between employers, trade unions and other stakeholders, in the provision of health and social care. The deadline for all entries is (noon) Thursday 12 March 2015. More information on the SPF Partnership Award and how to enter can be found [here](#).

### **Duty of Candour and Fit and Proper Persons test**

On 7 November two new laws came into place. [The Duty of Candour and Fit and Proper Person's Test](#) will help improve patient safety, transparency and leadership in the NHS. The Government called for a more open and honest culture in the NHS as part of their response to the Francis Report, a piece of work to which the SPF has also contributed.

### **SPF Stocktake 2015**

The SPF Stocktake 2015 will evaluate the national SPF's 'new ways of working', stakeholder relationships and partnerships for the 2014 calendar year. The Involvement and Participation Association (IPA) has recently been announced as the successful supplier, following a full tender process, and they will be conducting an independent evaluation of the national SPF. Work is due to commence in the New Year, and the review will be completed by May 2015. You can read previous stocktake reviews [here](#).

### **Staff Engagement and partnership working**

Earlier this year, the SPF developed a [briefing](#) on partnership working and staff engagement in the NHS. To complement this, an interview with Simon Hart, Oxleas Trust, has been conducted. The interview covers Simon's personal perspective on how the development of a partnership approach at Oxleas has improved staff engagement and positioned them well for the challenges they face. A podcast has also been recorded with Dino Williams, Unison Branch Secretary at Guys and St Thomas', where Dino describes the development of partnership working from a staff side perspective. Both can be found [here](#).

### **Consultation: National tariff payment system 2015/16**

The Staff Passport Group has engaged with Monitor and NHS England around the national tariff for 2015/16. The consultation period ends on 24 December 2014 and they welcome responses from anyone interested in the NHS payment system. The consultation can be accessed [here](#).

### **Monitor consultation: Improving costing of NHS Services: 2015 to 2021**

Monitor is seeking to engage with the sector on the consultation document 'Improving the costing of NHS services: proposals for 2015-2021'. This document sets out a plan to transform NHS costing over the next seven years. The full consultation can be found [here](#). The Staff Passport Group will further engage on elements including market forces and safe staffing levels.



### **NHS Standard Contract**

The Staff Passport Group has had early engagement on the NHS Standard contract. NHS England now wants to engage with all those with an interest in the NHS Standard Contract to assess how they can continue to improve the Contract. The NHS England Standard Contract 2015/16 consultation, which closes on 24 December, and can be accessed [here](#).

### **Dalton Review: Options for providers of NHS care**

In December 2014, Sir David Dalton published his review which looks at new options and opportunities to help the best leaders and organisations in the NHS to do more for patients. SPF Co-Chairs Christina McAnea, Staff Side and Dean Royles, NHS Employers, met with David Dalton in June to make sure the workforce, union and employer perspectives were fed in directly into the review. Read the published review [here](#).

### **Hello Danny Mortimer**

Danny Mortimer has recently taken up the role of Chief Executive at NHS Employers. Whilst in his previous role as Director of Workforce and Strategy at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, he was also the Management Chair for East Midlands SPF, which will prove beneficial as he brings such a wealth of experience to his role as joint chair at the national SPF.

### **Goodbye Pam Johnson**

Pam Johnson, Regional Head of Health for Unison at Yorkshire and Humber, is preparing to retire and has reflected on partnership working and her time as Chair of North SPF. Listen to the full podcast [here](#).

### **HEE National Workforce plan**

On 16 December, HEE published its second workforce plan for England, which sets out the £5bn investment HEE will make in education and training programmes for 2015/16. You can read the full plan [here](#).

**We are keen to include examples of good partnership working from regional and local SPFs on our 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](mailto:webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org)**  
**To subscribe to the SPF Bulletin and SPF News Alerts email 'subscribe' to the above email address.**

