

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

On 4 February 2015, SPF Strategic Group held a productive workforce strategy workshop in lieu of its regular quarterly meeting. It focused on the workforce implications of the [NHS 5-Year Forward View](#). The main outcomes were: to work more closely with NHS England around new models of care “vanguards”, to scope what should be in a staff offer, to feed into any workforce briefing being prepared for the new Ministerial team post-election, and to hold a follow-up workshop in April.

SPF Wider Group – Key Comms

Read the key comms from the SPF Wider Group meeting held 24 February, find out what the group discussed [here](#).

Staff Passport Group (SPG)

The SPG has continued to work with NHS England on the possibility of putting a requirement in the NHS Standard Contract for all providers of NHS services to use the NHS Staff Survey. The group has engaged with Monitor on its ‘Improving the Costing of NHS Services: Proposals for 2015 to 2021’ and will contribute to the developing thinking going forward. The group has also engaged with the Department of Health (DH) and The King’s Fund on the exploratory programme looking at mutuals in health and the SPG, working with DH and Cabinet Office, developed some [principals of engagement](#) for staff and trade union involvement in the mutuals in health pathfinder programme. More information on the SPG can be found [here](#).

Embedding Partnership Working Group (EPWG)

The EPWG commissioned IPA to carry out an external review of the effectiveness of the national SPF and its new ways of working. The outcome of the review will be tabled at the SPF Wider Group meeting in July. The group has developed a ‘how we do partnership’ page which is now live on the [SPF website](#). This acts as a central signposting page for information, messages and tools to support and promote partnership working. More information about the EPWG can be accessed [here](#).

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NHS Staff Survey results 2014 & Freedom to Speak Up – Statement from the national SPF

The 2014 NHS Staff Survey Results were published on 24 February 2015. The SPF has produced a joint statement on the results and also the recently published report from Sir Robert Francis QC, 'Freedom to Speak Up'. The statement is available to read on the [SPF website](#).

National Regional Group

The National Regional Group (NRG) is a subgroup of the EPWG, which aims to ensure that the national SPF and the regional SPF have a continuing dialogue and a co-ordinated approach to progressing their work and achieving their objectives. The action note from the last NRG meeting in January is available [here](#).

HPMA awards – Time is running out to enter!

The deadline for entries for the Partnership Award is (noon) Thursday 12 March 2015. If you have a good example of partnership working, please enter. More information on the SPF Partnership Award and **how to enter** can be found [here](#).

Update on your SPF website

The new SPF website has been live since February last year and we are pleased with how it is working and how it is being used. One area that was not being utilised as envisaged was the regional community pages and we know from feedback that the main barrier for many users was the registration and log in process. From the 9 February the registration process and log in has been removed, the document stores now sit under the appropriate regional subpages, and the content of the document stores is publicly accessible to all users of the site. The regional community area has been removed together with the discussion boards which were not being used. All members of the regional community have received an email detailing the impact of the change for them. If you have any questions about the change please email us at webenquiries@socialpartnershipforum.org

NHS Change Day 2015

On 11 March 2015, NHS Change Day will bring together the individual creativity, energy and innovative thinking of thousands of NHS staff from across clinical and non-clinical areas of work. It's a single day of collective action to improve care for patients, their families and their carers. Partners are encouraged to pledge to take a small action that will make a difference. Together each of our small actions will make a big difference in improving the care and wellbeing of those who use the NHS. Follow the 12 hour live broadcast 7 am to 7 pm #changeathon at www.webcasts.com/NHSchangedayTV. To get involved visit the [NHS Change Day website](#).



Whistleblowing helpline newsletter

February's edition of the [Whistleblowing Helpline Newsletter](#) includes details of the Freedom to Speak Up Review report, news of a courageous whistleblower in Worcester and details of a new case clarifying when bad treatment of a whistleblower is unlawful. For more information on raising concerns and whistleblowing and links to guidance and resources see our [whistleblowing webpage](#).

The Forward View into action – planning for 2015/16

'Forward view into action – planning for 2015/16' describes the approach for national and local organisations to make a start in 2015/16 towards fulfilling the vision set out in the NHS *Five Year Forward View*. The document can be accessed from the [SPF website](#).

Improving access to 7 day services

NHS Improving Quality and NHS England are holding a series of events in the South of England to help local health economies plan to deliver access to seven day services, in line with the requirements set out in 'The Forward View into action - planning for 2015/6'. Details of the events can be found [here](#).

Good Luck Karen

Karen Charman, Director of Communications, Engagement and Business Development at NHS Employers, left the organisation in January to return to working closer to the service. Karen chaired the EPWG and was actively involved in the work of the SPF. Thanks have been recorded by all SPF colleagues.

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

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