

LINCOLNSHIRE  
TRAINING HUB  
Primary Care Education

NHS England and NHS Improvement



# New to Practice Fellowship Recognition Event

Wednesday 14th September, Dower House Hotel, Woodhall Spa

# Background

The New to Practice Fellowship Programme is an NHS England funded 2-year programme of support and mentorship for newly qualified GPs and GPNs beginning careers in General Practice.

Launched in December 2020, the programme is designed to help practices attract, support and retain tomorrow's clinical team to meet patients' needs and is open to any newly qualified GP or GPN who:

- Has qualified in the last 12 months
- Is employed in a substantive or partnership post in a Lincolnshire practice

Each fellow is assigned a mentor for the duration of the two-year programme and is able to access one funded session of protected time per week (pro rata) in which to undertake a project or projects in line with their own interests.



## Event Purpose

As a couple of fellows are approaching the end of their 2-year fellowship programme, Lincolnshire Training Hub (LTH) decided to hold a face-to-face celebration event to celebrate achievements made during the programme, share ideas for projects and facilitate networking between fellows and mentors. A total of 40 people attended the event, including GP and GPN fellows, GP and GPN mentors, members of the LTH team and representatives from NHSEI, the ICB and Lincolnshire LMC.

## National Period of Mourning

In light of the fact that the event took place during the 10-day period of national mourning, the event was rebranded a recognition event rather than a celebration event and attendees were invited to wear black ties or ribbons.

As a Queen's Nurse, LTH Workforce Transformation GPN Lead Gill Beardmore led a 2-minute silence in memory of Queen Elizabeth and highlighted the role of the Queen's Nursing Institute as well as the importance of the Queen's support in increasing appreciation of the work of nurses throughout the UK.

# Small Group Work and Feedback

Attendees split up into small groups consisting of 3-4 fellows, at least one mentor and a member of the LTH team to discuss their current projects as well as ideas for future projects. Conversations were animated, enthusiastic and extremely positive. Many fellows exchanged contact details to connect further after the event. All fellows were also provided with the link to the online fellowship feedback form to provide their feedback on the programme.

## Agenda

Following a hot lunch with plenty of opportunities for networking, LTH Business Director Susan McElnea provided a brief overview of Lincolnshire Training Hub, including who we are and what services we offer. GP Fellowship Leads Dr Kevin Thomas and Dr Becca Gibbon then gave an update on the fellowship programme, including current numbers of fellows.

Two new to practice GP fellows, Dr Hanniyea Paul and Dr Efekodo Oghenovo, and Trailblazer GP fellow Dr Nneka Anaegbu delivered a presentation on their fellowship journey and projects completed as part of the fellowship programme. Projects included:

- Increasing the cervical smear uptake rate
- Delivering small group teaching sessions for medical students
- Introduction of video group consultations
- Implementing health checks for patients with severe mental health issues
- Empowerment of elderly patients with IT skills

As well as undertaking the above projects, the three fellows delivering presentations also used their funded fellowship time to:

- Join the LMC
- Undertake the clinical supervisor course
- Complete the Impact Lincs mentoring course
- Train as a coil/implant fitter

The presentations from fellows nearing the end of their fellowship sparked considerable interest among the other fellows and provided inspiration for those looking for new project ideas.



# Health and Wellbeing

Dr Helen Garr in her role as The Wellbeing GP delivered a Stress Superhero health and wellbeing session to share stress-busting tips and techniques with the fellows and mentors. The session was well received by the attendees, with high levels of engagement and interaction.



# Future of GPN Fellowships

LTH's GPN Workforce Transformation Lead Gill Beardmore shared plans for expansion of the GPN fellowship programme to increase uptake. The new programme will be widened to include all nurses and nursing associates new to general practice. All nurses new to general practice will be able to access:

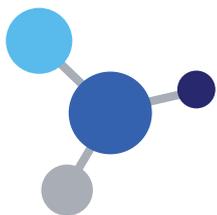
- A named mentor
- Learning sessions
- The Lincolnshire GPN Society
- Support package to guide development (previously known as preceptorship)
- Career advice and signposting



# Future Events

Following the success of this first fellowship recognition event, LTH plans to run further in-person fellowship events at regular intervals to offer continued opportunities for networking, sharing of projects and celebration of achievements made during the programme.

The range of opportunities available to new to practice fellows is increasing all the time. Fellows with an interest in medical education are now being offered the opportunity to get involved with medical student OSCE exams, writing cases for a back pain symposium (for 500 students) and supporting clinical skills learning for 4th year medical students. Other new opportunities include providing input into the development and redesign of paediatric asthma, epilepsy and diabetes pathways.



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