

Building engagement for a national community nursing plan in England

Sam Sherrington

Deputy Director Community Nursing NHS England and Improvement, England UK

Background: Need for a national community nursing plan

The Chief Nursing Officer, England appointed a national deputy director community nursing to develop a national community nursing plan (NCNP) in England for the next five years. Building engagement for the NCNP includes bringing all nurses who work in the community to the co-design, co-development and co-production together as a community nursing family. In order to do this, alongside a global pandemic, a number of aspects have taken place 1] gather feedback in small focus groups 2] collection of 3 wishes per community nurse for their ambitions for the next five years.

Aim of the study: Building engagement

To gather the feedback of nurses working in the community, inclusive of all community nurses working people, families and communities across the lifespan.

To use the feedback to co-design, co-develop and co-produce a NCNP.

Methods: emergent themes

The method adopted reflected emergent themes, which are the basic building blocks for inquiry approaches to qualitative social science research. Over a year, submitting the 1] focus group feedback and 2] collection of 3 wishes, into a spreadsheet, through coding of categories a number of themes and action areas began to emerge.

Results: Community nurses engagement is live

Three themes and seven action areas emerged from the results (see table 1)

Table 1: National Community Nursing Plan Themes and Action Areas

THEME 1 Attractive, fulfilling and flexible careers in community nursing	Action Area 1 - South West: Deliver diverse career pathways Action Area 2 - South East: Advance research and innovation
THEME 2 Community nursing working collaboratively to improve patient outcomes and experiences	Action Area 3 - North West: Build capacity of Integrated care systems Action Area 4 - North East & Yorkshire: Drive use of digital and data Action Area 5 - London: Expand role in population health management
THEME 3 Community nursing gets the full profile and recognition it deserves	Action Area 6 - Midlands: Raise the profile and celebrate success Action Area 7 - East of England: Demonstrate value and understand the economics

Conclusions and implications: Implementation of national community nursing plan

Community nurses are key to the transformation of community services which is made clear in the commitments outlined in the long term plan for England. In this study, community nurses have articulated their ambitions through the strong lens of workforce development. Through these themes and action areas, the regions in England have begun the leadership journey with community nurses towards sustainable health.