

Strengthening the Commitment Northern Ireland Action Plan

Communiqué June 2018

Background

Strengthening the Commitment: the Report of the UK Modernising Learning Disabilities Nursing Review, was released in April 2012. Since then a Northern Ireland Action Plan has been developed to take forward its recommendations. The NI Action Plan is available at <http://www.nipec.hscni.net/work-and-projects/strengthening-the-commitment/>.

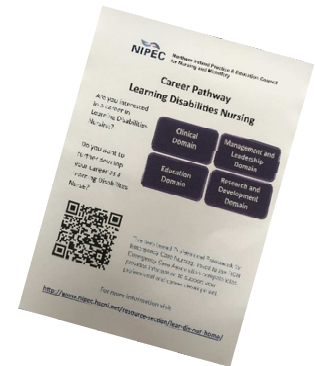
NI Regional Collaborative

The Northern Ireland Regional Collaborative (the Collaborative) is chaired by Professor Owen Barr, Professor of Nursing and Intellectual Disabilities, Ulster University. The Collaborative currently includes representation from; the Independent Sector; five of the Health and Social Care Trusts, Educational Providers, RCN, the Public Health Agency, ARC and NIPEC. This programme of work is facilitated and supported by NIPEC.



UPDATE

- The Career Pathway for Learning Disabilities Nursing was formally launched by the Chief Nursing Officer, Charlotte McArdle at the last NIPEC/RCN RNLD Professional Development Forum on the 19th June 2018 at Ulster University.
- The NI Collaborative has developed an Outcomes Measurement Framework for use by Registered Nurses Learning Disabilities – this is currently being tested with front line practitioners before being formally launched.
- The Collaborative continues to work alongside the Evidencing Care through Key Performance Indicators for Nursing and Midwifery Professional Advisory Group and had tested the regionally agreed Key Performance Indicator for Registered Nurses Learning Disabilities related to Public Health/Health Improvement. The Collaborative have been asked by the Advisory Group to present the findings at a Celebration Event in October 2018.
- The most recent Professional Development Forum Learning Disabilities Nursing took place 19th June 2018. There was a huge turn out with over 70 RNLDs in attendance. The Forum focused on the launch of the RNLD Career Pathway and provided an opportunity to give participants an update on the work of the Collaborative and the RCN Learning Disabilities Nurses Network.
- At the Forum meeting the Chief Nursing Officer highlighted that the DOH was funding an additional ten places on the pre-registration nursing programme for students in the learning disabilities field of practice, this was warmly welcomed.



- The NI Collaborative Annual report was presented to the Chief Nursing Officer in November 2017 and is available to view on the NIPEC website.
- The Collaborative members have agreed their key Priorities for 2018-2019 which include work streams exploring the role of the RNLD in managing behaviour which presents as challenging, risk assessment and safeguarding, the development of further KPIs and embedding both the Career Pathway and the Outcomes Measurement Framework.

RCN Nurse of the Year Award 2018 at a glance

Student Award

ANDREW TURNER a 3rd year student at Queens – Learning Disability Programme won the over student award. Andrew was commended for his involvement in a community resettlement programme, working with service users, carers and families



Learning Disability Award



JILLIAN SCOTT a Health facilitator in the NHSCT received the Runner up in this category. Jillian is the only Registered Nurse Learning Disability in Northern Ireland to hold a specialist practice nursing qualification in diabetes.



JOANNA McCONNELL a Deputy Sister Emergency Department SET **won the overall Learning Disability Award** for her outstanding work on behalf of people with autism who attend the emergency department.

Date for your Diary:-
RNLD Professional Forum

Date 17th October 2018 @ 10.00am

Venue: Great Hall, Downshire Hospital, Ardglass Road,
Downpatrick BT30 6RA

Theme: TBC

For further information contact: Frances Cannon NIPEC Senior Professional Officer frances.cannon@nipec.hscni.net. To access further information and view membership of the Northern Ireland Regional Collaborative click here <http://www.nipec.hscni.net/work-and-projects/strengthening-the-commitment/>