

Retaining your mental health and learning disability nurses

NHS England produced the mental health nurse's handbook, a resource for mental health and learning disability nurses across England and their employers. The handbook offers practical tips on supporting preceptorship programmes and supervision conversations to help organisations retain their highly skilled mental health and learning disability nursing workforce.

NHS England have also published Commitment and Growth: advancing mental health nursing now and for the future, which focuses on identifying the key issues faced by the profession, and offers system-wide recommendations to address them.

NHS England's healthcare support worker (HCSW) programme encourages trusts to recruit, retain and develop HCSWs in mental health settings. This video explores the day in the life of a HCSW in a mental health setting.

It is vital to create more development opportunities for the mental health and learning disability nursing workforce, to attract more people into the profession and to retain existing staff. This article by the Nursing Times explores how introducing the professional nurse educator (PNE) role can be key to tackling issues in mental health care.

Clinical staff who receive support from PNEs report feeling more secure making decisions, as well as improved confidence and wellbeing. The PNE role offers qualified mental health and learning disability nurses who are interested in education the opportunity to develop their career in the NHS while supporting their colleagues to grow and improve.

This webinar recording is an opportunity to hear from employers who have been using the nursing associate role in community and mental health settings and learn about the value they can bring to these services.

Read this case study by the NHS Confederation's Mental Health Network. It focuses on Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, a low-secure child and adolescent mental health unit that provides care for young people between the ages of 13 and 18. The case study highlights how the trust has made sure that its staff are trained to provide care for complex mental health needs, and that it provides the best quality training and development of its nursing staff.