

National School of Occupational Health Newsletter

Latest School News



NSOH Strategy 2023–2028

Carrying forward the Vision



[The strategy](#) sets out NSOH's priorities, pertinent objectives, pathways to achieve them and importantly how success is measured in the next five years. A new organisation has been formed to amalgamate NHS England, NHSE WT&E and NHS Digital which provides an opportunity to streamline.

Objectives are aligned with the quality mark of NHSE WT&E and contain measurables based on workforce planning, developing a quality management framework, influencing a single approach to training and education and creating a community of learning. Emphasis is on multi and interdisciplinary OH teams

Leading the Task and Finish Group with the Work and Health Directorate has enabled us to focus on two themes;- knowledge of OH as a career and improving training opportunities which form part of the strategy.

Funding for OH Education

A new **funding program** is being facilitated by the school. The program is aimed at both Doctors and Nurses who would like to enter Occupational Health. The scheme does not cover those already working in OH. It is supporting a DWP/DHSC Joint Work and Health Directorate Proof of Concept research project for workforce planning. Priority will be given to Doctors and Nurses in the private sector, who have already left the NHS and those with plans to leave with the aim of aiding retention of the wider healthcare workforce.

Interest can be registered here on the [school website](#).

Conference "Looking back to look forward".

Our May conference was extremely well attended, 175 participants being our greatest number ever. The interim evaluation demonstrates that 93% agreed the seminar 'met all their needs', 93% found the seminar 'interactive and enjoyable' and 100% would recommend it. The sessions have been recorded and will be made available on the NHS Hub.



The Occupational Health workforce expansion **Task and Finish Group** outcome report is now complete and will be shared with all members at a meeting on the 2nd of June. The report focuses on 2 main themes affecting the OH Workforce, with recommendations.

National School of Occupational Health Newsletter

Mentorship for those considering a career in Occupational Health

We are building a nurse and AHP Mentor and Mentee program with SOM, to support those interested in entering OH as a career. For those interested in becoming mentors, more information can be found here on the [SOM website](#) or [register your interest here](#)



Research

The School has been supporting the [London Centre of Work and Health Research](#) project that has been commissioned by the [Growing OH&WB program](#); - "Opportunities for growing a multidisciplinary OH clinical workforce". See details below of a workshop continuing this work — everyone is welcome

Kings College London is undertaking research, exploring the attractiveness of OH careers, which we are promoting – please visit their site to contribute

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/oh-careers>

NSOH Website: has been [updated](#) and now includes:

- A section on careers with training guidance and blogs provided by clinicians in varying fields
- Links to useful information and to influential organisations in OH
- Information on supporting student placements in OH

Growing OH&WB team have updated their prospectus which can be found on the [Futures platform](#) for those working in the NHS

FOHN OH Nurse accreditation scheme has been out for consultation and is due to be launched later on in the year <https://www.fohn.org.uk/accreditation-2/>

FOHN have also released a [friends of the faculty](#) initiative for £10 annually

FOM [Trainee newsletter](#) is now available. Trainee resources have been built and are freely available. Resources appear suitable for the multidisciplinary team.

Training and education

iOH recently published [OH Today training and education special edition](#). A useful insight on what is available for OH including an article on a new [interprofessional practice education qualification](#)

QNI have now published their [practice supervisor and educator standards](#)

The apprenticeship scheme for SCPHN-OH has had it's final review and will soon be published on the [institute of apprenticeship website](#). The new SCPHN-OH programs will be available in Sept '24

NHSE has now published the public health advanced practice standards

[Open Awards Technician Ofqual Level 3](#) qualification has now been published, supported by SOM

The Advanced Practice Public Health standards have been published by HEE and will be available soon

National School of Occupational Health Newsletter

Events to look forward to:

[SOM central regional group](#). 9th June in Farnborough

Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary Workshop hosted by NSOH and London OH Research centre on Day 1 of the [SOM FOM conference](#). 15th June Newcastle

[SOM FOM conference](#)—Professor Harj Kaul and Janet O'Neill will be speaking on the work of the school—day 2. 15th and 16th June in Newcastle

[Health at work network conference](#) —Dr Ali Hashtroudi (Head of School) will be speaking. 13th and 14th September in Warwickshire

[SOM Leadership conference](#). 19th September London

SOM NSOH careers day—[Nurses](#) in the morning and [Doctors](#) in the afternoon. We have great speakers and a panel for questions. Transport for London will be hosting. 27th September in London

[ACPOHE Study day and AGM](#): 17 November venue TBC

Spring Budget:

The [Government](#) focused significantly on Occupational Health in the Spring budget.

Dr Steve Nimmo's, FOM President has made a statement on the [FOM website](#)

A SOM discussion can be found [here](#)



Hot off the press: A new [Global indicator](#) for mortality due to occupational risks.

Publications of interest—Supporting people in work

- The University of East Anglia has produced [an employer insight](#) report on supporting people with disabling long term health conditions to remain in work
- HSE have produced a [Talking toolkit](#) for supporting disabled workers with chronic conditions in work
- [IES: Working for the future](#)—the future of employment support
- [BSI standard](#) for supporting menstrual health at work
- [Parliament report](#) on invisible disabilities in education and employment

Discussion: Presenteeism is seen as a significant financial cost to organisations and in some cases vilified. However this [2019 paper](#) argues there is a positive side and can support people to work through illness i.e. “purposeful and adaptive” if workplace support is provided. Building on this, a [2022 paper](#) found that a resourceful work environment was more associated with a functional presentee and a stressful environment, the opposite. A very recent publication ([May 2023](#)) agreed working while fit could be therapeutic but cites this as risky behaviour and therefore proactive management by organisations is needed. A SOM [guidance paper on presenteeism](#), 2021, provided information to OH professionals on how to support organisations with presenteeism.