RCN Foundation call for applications

*The RCN Foundation seeks to appoint a University to host the RCN Foundation Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing.*

**Introduction**

The RCN Foundation is looking to appoint a University to host the newly established RCN Foundation Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing. This is a five-year programme, and the Chair will be responsible for developing research collaborations with academic institutions and key stakeholders to expand and promote nurse-led research within adult social care nursing. The aim of the role is to translate research into clinical practice in order to improve nursing care and to develop the evidence-base to support the next generation of nurses for adult social care. Although the role will work across the UK, it will work closely with the Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care in England, Professor Deborah Sturdy CBE.

**The RCN Foundation**

The RCN Foundation is an independent charity (1134606 – England and Wales, SC043663 – Scotland) and a company limited by guarantee (7026001). It was set up in 2010 and aims to support and strengthen nursing to improve the health and well-being of the public. The Foundation delivers its purpose by:

- **Supporting** individual members of the nursing team (nurses, midwives and health care support workers) by providing grants for hardship and education purposes.

- **Investing** in the nursing profession to improve patient care by funding research and practice development projects in our priority areas.

- **Championing** nursing by raising the profile of the profession and public understanding of its contribution to improving the nation’s health.

The RCN Foundation have had Care Home Nursing as a core priority for a number of years. This has involved funding a range of projects and studies which aimed to promote and develop nursing practice within the Carehome setting. For more details on this priority area please visit the RCN Foundation website [here](#). Another key
priority area for the Foundation is Learning Disability nursing within the social care setting.

The RCN Foundation Chair of Adult Social Care Nursing

The RCN Foundation Chair of Adult Social Care Nursing will take the strategic lead on a five-year programme of work, which encompasses nurse-led research, education through teaching, learning and scholarly activities, as well as leadership, within the speciality of adult social care nursing across the UK. The aim of the role is to translate research into clinical practice and to develop the evidence-base for the next generation of adult social care nurses. Not only should the Chair be research active with a role in teaching and learning, but they should also maintain currency of clinical nursing practice in adult social care.

The Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing will be supported by a post-doctoral research assistant. The initial task will be to undertake a scoping review and intelligence gathering exercise, which will identify the gaps in the evidence-base underpinning adult social care nursing. Through this exercise, the Chair will provide expert advice and information to academia and key stakeholders on the research direction, themes and topics to address these gaps. The Chair will also use direct engagement and membership of expert reference groups to support this activity. Maintaining Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) and Citizen Science throughout the programme of work will be central to this role.

The programme will include individual and collaborative research studies with tangible outcomes and outputs which underpin evidence-based nursing practice within adult social care and to develop the capacity of nurse researchers within this speciality of nursing. The scope will include areas such as care of the older person and that for individuals with a learning disability. There will be an expectation to also lead on research studies which have been identified by the RCN Foundation and which map to the Foundations’ priority areas, such as Learning Disability Nursing within adult social care.

The two areas of focus will be:
1.1. **Teaching and Learning**

The Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing will take a strategic lead to shape the adult social care nursing teaching and learning strategy at a local, national and international level. This will involve:

- Maintaining their currency in adult social care clinical nursing practice.
- Teaching to all levels of nursing student from Pre-Registration nursing students across the UK to PhD candidates.
- Taking the lead on the development and implementation of a research-informed teaching strategy and to coordinate research-informed education in adult social care nursing practice across the UK.
- Leading a review of the national teaching, learning and assessment strategies for adult social care nursing based upon evidence-based practice.
- Facilitating the creation and development of a suite of accredited and innovative post-graduate education programmes across the four countries, which support the Continuing Professional Development of registered nurses within adult social care. These programmes will address the gaps identified in a scoping review of provision, and will embed research and evidence-based adult social care nursing practice within the curriculum design. Examples could be the development of an MSc or PG Cert for Advanced Practice for Adult Social Care Nurses or a Specialist Practice Qualification (SPQ) in Adult Social Care Nursing.
- Drawing upon scholarly activity and leadership skills to build the evidence base, which underpins adult social care nursing at a national and international level.
- Delivering a consistent number of successful post-graduate and PhD completions and acting as a category one supervisor for PhD/post graduate nursing candidates who are researching adult social care nursing.
- Develop a talent-pool of research supervisors from across the UK in adult social care nursing, to increase the national capacity for research supervision within this speciality.
- Leading and co-ordinating research-based teaching activity focusing on adult social care nursing, which is underpinned by the experience and involvement of service users and carers.

1.2. Research and Innovation

- Taking the lead on nationally and internationally recognised research and scholarly programmes of work, relating to innovative adult social care nursing practice. This high-quality research should demonstrate sustained impact through the Research Excellence Framework (REF) outputs which will include REF submissible publications and impact case studies.

- Using the evidence to inform policy-making at a national and international level.

- Linking with the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) for Social Care (currently the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration Kent, Surrey and Sussex) and for Health Inequalities (NIHR ARC North East and North Cumbria).

- Successfully bidding for research grants such as those from NIHR.

- Leading and managing research groups and activity both nationally and internationally within adult social care nursing. This will provide a contribution to the development of evidence-based knowledge which underpins this speciality of nursing practice.

- Providing considerable and ongoing leadership for adult social care nursing research partnerships at both national and international levels, with other higher education institutions.

- Developing substantial and sustained national and international partnerships with a variety of key stakeholders to support the dissemination of evidence to the benefit of the nursing profession and the wider adult social care population.

- Ensuring that Patient Public Involvement (PPI) and Citizen Science remains consistent throughout the programme.

- Being internationally renowned as a key note speaker, at prominent national and international conferences with a reputation for high quality and innovative nurse-led research in adult social care nursing.
To raise the profile both nationally and internationally of adult social care nursing both amongst the profession and the wider public.

Application

To apply for this funding call, please submit a proposal to: grants@rcnfoundation.org.uk

This should address the following headings:

Section A: Host University details

Please include the details of the organisation applying to host the RCN Foundation Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing. Please give a brief description of the organisation and proposed the team. Please indicate if the organisation has a suitable candidate for the Chair position or if there would be a need to recruit into this role.

The application should demonstrate the organisation’s considerable experience within the two areas of focus within adult social care nursing which are:

- Teaching and Learning
- Research and Innovation

Section B: Application Details

Please provide the following:

Timescales and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Please present the timescales for the Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing in a Gantt chart. This should include the key phases including any recruitment which maybe required, deadlines and milestones of the appointment, as well as any other relevant information.
Please, in your proposal use the following table format to outline the proposed KPIs and timelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KPIs</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KPIs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Please provide the date by which each KPI is expected to be achieved</td>
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**Outputs, outcomes and impact**

The initial proposal for the outputs and outcomes from the programme would be agreed with the host university as part of the grant agreement, but could look to include:

1. A scoping review on the current evidence-base for adult social care nursing to identify the gaps in the evidence-base
2. A scoping review on the current education programmes focusing on adult social care nursing
3. Economic Impact of the role and associated programme of work
4. A reliable and growing evidence-base of primary and secondary research, which underpins adult social care nursing practice.
5. A career pathway for nurses working within adult social care supported by an education framework.
6. Nursing roles within adult social care practice which enhance service-user flow between acute care and social care settings or prevent those in social care requiring acute care intervention.
7. Work closely with the Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care for England, to ensure the evidence generated through the research, will build an evidence-base to underpin adult social care nursing strategy and policy for the future.
Please provide the main outputs and outcomes and explain how the short, medium, and long-term impact of the position of the Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing will be evaluated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Map for Chair in Adult Social Care Nursing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Outputs</td>
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**Dissemination**

Please outline dissemination activities, identifying the key activities, and the audiences at whom the outcomes and outputs will be targeted. Please include details of the communications which will be required to support the dissemination.

**Equity, diversity and inclusion**

Consideration needs to be given to the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion within the proposal. Please provide information on how you will address and incorporate these principles within the position.

**Sustainability**

Does your organisation have an environmental sustainability policy and how does this proposal adhere to this?

**Safeguarding**

Please provide details of safeguarding policies in place and how safeguarding will be maintained when working with vulnerable individuals within the social care settings.

**Risk register**
Please provide a risk register for any actual or potential risks associated with the proposal along with any proposed mitigating actions.

**Section C: Budget**

We expect the overall costs of the programme to be in the region of £1.2 to £1.3 million. The RCN Foundation will provide the costs for three years of the tenure, amounting to a total spend of a maximum of £700,000. These costs will be tapered over a five year period. A condition of the award is that the host university will be expected to provide the balance of the funding.

Please provide a detailed breakdown of costs including the salary costs of the Chair and the post-doctoral research assistant. These should include the ‘on costs’ and support costs of the posts.

**Next Steps**

Applications open on 11 May 2023 and close at 5pm on 23 June 2023.

Interviews will be held at the beginning of **w/c 17 July 2023**

Proposals received after the closing date will not be considered.

Completed proposals should be submitted by email to: grants@rcnfoundation.org.uk

Should you have any questions about this funding call please contact Dr Sarah McGloin, Head of Grants and Impact at the RCN Foundation: sarah.mcgloin@rcnfoundation.org.uk

Thank you for your interest.
**Application checklist**

Please ensure that you have included the following in your application:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
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<tr>
<td>A clear and comprehensive indicative budget</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curriculum Vitae for the team members</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>A timeline presented in a Gantt chart</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPIs presented in a table</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk register</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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