

# RCN Management & Leadership Conference

## Leading with scrutiny

RCN HQ, 20 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0RN  
29 April 2026

Please note these programme details and timings are subject to change. A final programme will be in your delegate pack at the event.

## Programme at a glance

9.00	Registration, exhibition, networking and refreshments
10.00	<b>Chair's opening remarks</b> Liam Williams, RCN Management and Leadership Forum, Executive Director of Quality and Nursing, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust
<b>Learning from public inquiries in the health and care sector</b>	
10.15	<b>Historical context: Examining patterns across multiple public inquiries to identify common themes and failures</b> Dr Denise Chaffer CBE, Former Director of Safety and Learning
11.00	<b>Systemic obstacles: Exploring the organisational, cultural, and structural barriers that prevent meaningful learning from past mistakes</b> Deborah Sturdy, CBE, Chief Nurse, Department of Health and Social Care
11.45	Refreshments and exhibition viewing
12.15	<b>Psychological factors: Discussing how defensive reactions, blame culture, and other psychological mechanisms can inhibit learning</b> Rabina Tindale, Chair, RCN Nurses in Management and Leadership Forum and Chief Nurse, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
12.45	Lunch and exhibition viewing
<b>Understanding the Ndeu Landscape of Leadership Visibility</b>	
13.45	<b>Why visibility matters more than ever in today's environment</b> Birte Harlev-Lam OBE

14.25	<b>Navigating visibility and scrutiny in today's world: Creating your leadership visibility strategy</b>
15.05	<b>Refreshments and exhibition viewing</b>
15.25	<p><b>Audience reflections and panel discussion - Where do we go from here?</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Liam Willams, RCN Management and Leadership Forum, Executive Director of Quality and Nursing, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust</p> <p><b>Panellists</b></p> <p>Dr Denise Chaffer. Former Director of Safety and Learning</p> <p>Deborah Sturdy CBE, Chief Nurse, Department of Health and Social Care</p> <p>Rabina Tindale, Rabina Tindale, Chair, RCN Nurses in Management and Leadership Forum and Chief Nurse, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust</p> <p>Birte Harlev Lam OBE</p>
4.10pm	<p><b>Chairs closing remarks</b></p> <p>Liam Willams, RCN Management and Leadership Forum, Executive Director of Quality and Nursing, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust</p>
4.15pm	<b>Conference close</b>