

Name of Forum Justice and Forensic Healthcare

Date of Report 11th September 2024

Professional Lead Dr Liz Walsh

Forum Chair Paul McAleer

Since our last report, the forum has been active in several key areas and with some significant stakeholders both through direct and indirect member representation.

Of note at the time of writing, the FGG supported **UK wide Trauma Informed Care** events are ongoing. The Northern Ireland and Scotland events have taken place, with some excellent feedback from members. The North of England event is planned for the 13th September, and we anticipate good attendance based on current bookings. The Wales event is booked and planned for the 9th October and the final event, is booked for the 4th December to be held in Cowdray Hall at HQ. Feedback has been impressive and will be informing the future work and outputs of the forum.

Along with the Womens' Health Forum, the Justice and Health forum has been involved in the development and publication of the **RCN Sexual Health and Reproductive Health Competency Framework for Women Cared for in Prison**, and will support the webinar launch in mid-September.

They have also been involved in developing recently published **on line RCN resources** focussed on trauma informed care, in collaboration with the Mental Health Forum.

Forum committee members and forum members represented colleagues at this years **Congress**. Despite not being selected for any agenda items or learning/wellbeing events this year, Congress 2024 was fully covered by the committee (by both committee members and non-committee members) to ensure forum members voices were heard.

Many forum committee members are keen to promote the forum and its work in their everyday practice, both in their workplaces and externally when attending/leading events. Whilst they are not directly representing the RCN because of a direct request from the Professional Lead, their role in the forum is noted.

Deanna Mezen, one of our forum committee members has expertise in palliative care in prison, and as such, is regularly involved in training and meetings with key stakeholders developing palliative care services in prison both nationally and internationally. Her recent Churchill Fellowship award has meant travel across California to share her expertise.

Jess Davidson, our very active Health in Justice RCN Fellow and link committee member was awarded an MBE during this reporting period. She has also represented the forum at RCN Congress, is organising an RCN Fellow event in Scotland later in September and acted as a judge for this year's RCN Scotland Nurse of the Year awards. She is an active presenter on the agenda for the forum Trauma Informed Care events, and her contribution to the work of the forum is very much appreciated.

Simon Newman and Helen McNally both forum committee members, are sharing representation from the RCN Justice and Forensic forum at the RCPsych Quality Network for Prison Mental Health Services

During the reporting period, **Paul McAleer, forum Chair** attended a launch event alongside the Professional Lead hosted by the RtHon Baroness Morgan of Drefelin/Kings College London to hear about research concerning the diagnosis and management of people in prison with cancer. Our presence at this event was noted and many links to practitioners, researchers and policy makers were strengthened, paving the way for future collaboration and networking.

What has been the impact or difference made as a result of the member representation?

All recent publications and events that have been held/supported by the forum committee, have the potential to impact on both policy and practice, as the high-profile stakeholder relationships that the committee has, in addition to the networks they consistently link with, are significant in this field. The forum clearly promotes and amplifies the nursing voice in this area. Informal feedback regarding the profile of the RCN and its reputation amongst our key stakeholders and colleagues is consistently positive.

Any other relevant information you would like to share with FGG?

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the forum committee in supporting members and promoting nursing in this area of practice. They all have very busy work commitments, and often go above and beyond expectations in their roles on the committee. I would like to thank them on behalf of the College and forum members.

Dr Liz Walsh, UK Professional Lead Justice and Forensic Healthcare, 11th September 2024