

RCN Forum Representation - bi-annual summary report



Name of Forum

Nursing in Justice and Forensic Healthcare

Date of Report

6th April 2025

Professional Lead

Dr Liz Walsh

Forum Chair

Abi Bartlett

Please provide a summary of how the forum has represented the RCN over the past 6 months and the key points for FGG to note:

October 2024

Paul McAleer (Chair), Carlos Holder and Abi Bartlett all attended the HJUK Annual Summit, presenting their work and raising the profile of the forum and nursing in justice and forensic settings.

February 2025

Abi Bartlett (Forum Chair) attended a meeting at Hope Street, a residential development for women in contact with the justice system, and run by the charity One Small Thing, with whom we have developed close links with our trauma informed agenda (see earlier FGG reports regarding the UK wide Trauma Informed Care project).

March 2025

Abi Bartlett (Forum Chair) joined me to deliver a keynote paper at the first Wessex Forensic Healthcare Provider Collaborative Conference in Winchester.

Abi Bartlett and Lindsay Hinson have joined me in a number of online meetings with key stakeholders to support the writing of the upcoming Chief Medical Officer's report into prison health care.

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

Our member engagement in the Health and Justice UK collaboration and annual Summit has a significant impact via raising the profile of the RCN and amplifying the voice of nursing in the UK wide Justice and Forensic space both with key stakeholders, clinicians and policy makers.

Abi's meeting with colleagues at the charity One Small Thing ([One Small Thing](#)) has enabled us to establish good links in order to continue support for the forum's work in developing outputs regarding trauma informed care. Her involvement with OST has raised the profile of the RCN with this particular stakeholder.

Abi and Lindsay are working closely with me to support the Chief Medical Officers report into prison healthcare, which is due for publication in the summer. Their involvement in online meetings has enabled the nursing voice to be present and influence the report, specifically the chapters on mental health, workforce and complex care in prison.

Abi and I presented a keynote paper at the Wessex forensic provider collaborative, where the work of the forum committee was discussed, and significant networking opportunities were available. Here, the role of the forum was discussed and the profile of the RCN in forensic healthcare was raised.