

Name of Forum Date of Report Professional Lead Forum Chair **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**

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. By direct representation I refer to individual attendance at events/meeting etc, and by indirect, I am referring to the way in which steering committee members regularly bring the work of the forum and the College to the attention of colleagues out in practice and in their own day jobs.

In April this year, the forum was key in developing and launching the History of Prison Nursing exhibition, currently running at RCN HQ in London. As part of this exhibition, **Abi Bartlett (forum Chair)** worked with us to develop and deliver the hybrid launch event, where Stephen Fry kindly provided a short film of support for us following a direct request from us. Forum committee members have since been active members chairing and supporting the hybrid public events that accompany the exhibition. **Abi Bartlett, Carlos Holder and Jess Davidson** have all had significant input in these.

Of note for this report is an innovative initiative led by our Health and Justice RCN Fellow, Jess Davidson, who has been working with the Imperial War Museum, linking our field of nursing to their current exhibition, Sexual Violence in Conflict ([Unsilenced: Sexual Violence in Conflict | Imperial War Museums](#)). With the support of our RCN AV colleagues, we have produced a one-hour film with Jess and Helen Upcraft (the curator of the IWM exhibition) in discussion in the exhibition space, reflecting on the role of nurses and nursing in the sexual assault space with social responsibility and a role in caring for and supporting people subjected to sexual violence during conflict. There is clear synergy with the forums' membership in sexual assault referral centres (SARCs) and our police custody nursing colleagues. The wider nursing community also has a part to play in shining a spotlight on this hidden area, and as such, a film showing at London HQ is being considered in early 2026 as part of the work of the forum. This will be discussed at their next strategy day.

Forum committee member **Jennifer Hughes** and forum Chair **Abi Bartlett**, both attended the Activism Academy Day at London HQ in June to raise the profile of the work of the forum to members and to discuss the role of forums in more general terms.

In July, myself, Professor Nicola Ranger, Louise Church (RCN National H&S lead for prisons) and forum committee member **Lindsay Hinson** attended the launch event for the newly revised Joint Union Prisons Alliance publication, Safe Inside ([Joint Unions in Prisons Alliance | Nursing in Justice and Forensic Health Care Forum | Royal College of Nursing](#)) It was a useful meeting where all unions who have members working in prison, met with politicians to discuss concerns and issues facing colleagues in prison. Lindsay provided very moving testimony to the meeting, reflecting her and he colleagues experiences working in prisons.

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

The high-profile stakeholder relationships that the committee has, in addition to the networks they consistently link with, are significant in this field and include NHS organisations and providers, Health and Justice UK (a collaboration of three Royal Colleges – RCN, RCGP and RCPsych see [ABOUT – HEALTH AND JUSTICE UK](#)), HM Inspectorate of Prisons, independent providers e.g. Practice Plus Group and Spectrum, and Police services across the UK.

The forum regularly amplifies the nursing voice in this area. In particular during the last six months, we have seen the forum represented in Parliament at the JUPA launch, in other Royal colleges with our Health and Justice UK collaboration, and externally with key stakeholders. 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 draw the committee's notice to the support the forum has from its two Health and Justice RCN Fellows, Simon Newman and Jessica Davidson. Both are notably supportive of the steering committee, its work and its strategy.

I would also 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 and our Fellows on behalf of the College and forum members.

**Dr Liz Walsh, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**UK Professional Lead for Justice and Forensic Healthcare**