

NES AHP Careers Fellows Commencing April 2020







Joanne Gibson (Lanarkshire)

Joanne plans to build on the good, well established relationships between SLT and Health Visiting services, to support health visitors to further develop their skills and practice in early intervention for speech, language and communication needs for children age 0-3 in the most deprived areas. She will work with families and health visitors to co-create a model and use coaching, shadowing and work-based learning to build a sustainable change in practice.

Patrick Gilmartin (Forth Valley)

Local employment networks highlighted the need for new initiatives to support joined up working between public services, enterprise and third sector to support people with complex health barriers to enter paid work. Patrick's project will include supporting the development of a social enterprise (Dynamic Wheel) which will offer a micro-business start-up programme for people with complex barriers to paid work. The initiative will develop and deliver a peer-peer training programme and innovate the sector through the lived experiences of people.

Louise Steel and Ruth Campbell (Ayrshire and Arran)

Louise and Ruth plan to work with local AHPs to support them to embed improving population health and reducing health inequalities into their work. They will explore how AHP are currently contributing to population health and reducing health inequalities and support teams to identify and implement their change ideas







Charis Scott (Shetland)

In Shetland, more than 30% of requests for assistance received by the Children's Occupational Therapy department are from families or schools asking for advice or support around the eating, sleeping, toileting, behaviour management and sensory needs of children with autism or other neurodevelopmental difficulties. Charis plan to build capacity to meet these needs through learning together (families and service providers) and using co-production approaches to enable families to offer peer support and self management to improve the health and wellbeing of children with autism other neurodevelopmental difficulties in Shetland.

Nicki Romany (Golden Jubilee)

Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) pathways advocate pre-operative education to enhance a person's functional capacity pre-operatively, enable them to withstand a stressful event and support earlier restoration of functional status. However, current pre-operative orthopaedic services are limited in their ability to address a person's physical, psychological and nutritional prior to surgery. In particular people with a high BMI would benefit from enhanced prehabilitation to reduce the risk of complications, higher co-morbidity levels and longer length of stays. Nicki will lead and pilot a multiprofessional prehabilitation programme to improve outcomes for people with high BMI undergoing a total knee replacement.

Jane Allan and Susan Hart (Ayrshire and Arran)

Jane and Susan plan to evaluate the impact that early access to behavioural activation has on the function and employability of people attending a job centre. They will also offer training to staff who work for the Department of Work and Pension so that they are better able to respond to and support the mental health and wellbeing of their clients.







Natalie McCarron (Lanarkshire)

Children and young people (C&YP) have the right to express a view and have that view taken into account. However due to vulnerabilities and communication challenges the C&YP Natalie works with are often dependent on others to ensure this right is put into effect. Her project will therefore focus on ensuring that C&YP using Speech and Language Therapy services have the best opportunity to have their views heard and listened to. She will work with C&YP to identify ways they can feel more empowered to share their views and experiences, will learn from similar work happening in third sector organisations (e.g. PAMIS, NSPCC, Barnardo's) and explore communication support which may help.

Sharon Dwyer (Ayrshire and Arran)

Sharon aims to maximise the early years nutrition training offered by the Dietetic Health Promotion Team to staff groups who work with infants and children (0-5 years). She will map and evaluate the current training in order to inform future service delivery models that support the Public Health strategy around Maternal and Infant Nutrition, including early years.

Jennifer Simpson (Lothian)

In her application Jenny was clear that there is an increasing demand on radiology departments to carry out a high volume of diagnostic investigations. With the pending introduction of a National Thrombectomy service, it is likely that there will be increased demand on Computed Tomography (CT) departments for neurovascular scans, particularly as a first line investigation in the acute setting She therefore plans to analyse current practice and protocols in relation to diagnostic CT angiography and formulate an action plan to support a more standardised approach to CT angiography, which will include learning opportunities for radiographers.







Jennie Simcock (Greater Glasgow and Clyde)

There is significant evidence documenting the lasting physical, psychosocial & economic consequences for people affected by cancer, including cancer-related cognitive changes (CRCC)). Jennie will investigate the most effective way of providing cognitive rehabilitation interventions for people experiencing CRCC and develop a clear pathway for effectively delivering cognitive rehabilitation interventions. She will work with Maggie's Centre and build on the Transforming Care After Treatment (TCAT) project with the aim of integrating cognitive rehab education into clinical practice within cancer services.

Lynne Sheridan (Tayside)

Chronic pain and its management is a key priority within the Tayside Transformation Programme, and the important role AHPs play in the development of a non-pharmacological pathway for the management of chronic pain has been recognised. Lynne will identify the role and educational requirements of AHPs within the pathway and upskill where necessary, to enable people to receive the care they need in the most appropriate setting by people with the right skills. This will involve the development and delivery of a of a tiered pain management education programme for AHPs in NHS Tayside.

Aileen Fyfe and Claire Muir (Ayrshire and Arran)

Occupational Therapists in South Ayrshire have already started offering services to people within a primary care setting, focusing on the functional implications of mental and physical ill health. Claire and Aileen will continue to develop this work, building on the learning from across Scotland, testing evolving models of care and demonstrating the impact of Occupational Therapy in primary care. Aileen will establish and facilitate a network of OTs across Scotland looking to develop services within primary care.







Judith Montgomery (Lothian)

Judith wants to improve the journey for people with upper limb tendon/muscle injury within the plastic surgery service in Royal Hospital Children and Young People through addressing some of the unwarranted variation in practice and outcomes that can occur. She will undertake an audit of the current management/treatment and review the evidence to generate therapy protocols and corresponding patient information leaflets. With the assistance of the consultant hand surgeon(s) she will pilot new protocols that allow the lead therapist to care for the person from the immediate post-operative period through to discharge.

Alison Grant (National)

The Best Start (2016), NICE guidelines (2017) and Ready to Act (2016) all highlight the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to neonatal care. Best Start states that effective AHP services can improve outcomes for high risk neonates and recommends the development of consistent and equitable speciality paediatric and AHP support. Alison plans to benchmark current service delivery in neonatal units across Scotland and develop a model of practice to inform sustainable, cost effective, equitable AHP service delivery.

Gillian Trotter (Lanarkshire)

Gillian's fellowship to pilot No One Dies Alone (NODA) in several sites in Lanarkshire is a welcome example of AHPs supporting and building community initiatives. The NODA project will work with individual volunteers, families, communities and staff to ensure that a person has a constant companion in their last 72 hours of life. It is motivated by a desire to support the spiritual care and wellbeing of individuals and families. Gillian will work with spiritual care colleagues and learn from work in Inverclyde and other places to establish community ownership of NODA and work together to meet the unique needs of the Lanarkshire community.