

# Learning Disability Nursing in the South East

Daisy Hack

Learning Disability Nurse Development Lead

**Our vision:**

To improve the quality of life for  
the communities we serve.

# Put your hand up if....

1. You have been supported by a Learning Disability Nurse?
2. The LD nurse helped make your health care better?
3. You are a Learning Disability Nurse or student nurse



# Intro

We know people with Learning Disabilities (LD) have higher health needs than the general population and often die younger from avoidable causes (*LeDer report 2022*).

To get equal access to health care, people with LD often need reasonable adjustments made for them.

Learning Disability Nurses play a key role in advocating for the needs of people with LD, to ensure they get the health care that they deserve and live longer.



# Learning Disability Nursing Workforce

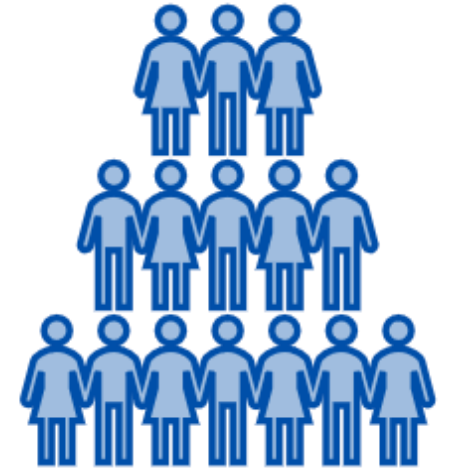
Learning Disability Nursing numbers in England are set to decrease significantly over the next few years. *South East Learning Disabilities Nursing Workforce Data (Health Education England 2022)*

Work needs to be done to make sure we have more LD nurses being trained.

This is so our services can continue to provide specialist nursing support to people with LD in the future.

NHS England's Long-Term Workforce Plan outlines the goal of training 46% more Learning Disability nurses by 2028/29.

However, in the South East region, we only have 1 University providing LD Nursing education programmes.



# New Community of Practice: LD Nursing Workforce & Education (South East)

We have set up a new community, to bring together professionals who are passionate about making sure we have more LD nurses in the future.

We are inviting key stakeholders from across the region including:

- LD Nurse representatives from all NHS Trusts in the South East.
- NHS England
- Representatives from the 6 Integrated Care Boards
- Partner Universities
- Representatives from social care & the private, voluntary & independent sector
- Anyone interested in or responsible for nursing education/workforce

We are also hoping to invite guest speakers and people with lived experience to share their ideas about the future of LD Nursing.



# Our vision:

- Still in the early stages of development
- We want the community to be led by its members
- We want to share new ideas and initiatives
- We want to influence decision making
- We want to connect people who are passionate about the future of LD Nursing
- We want to keep the needs of people of LD at the centre of our work



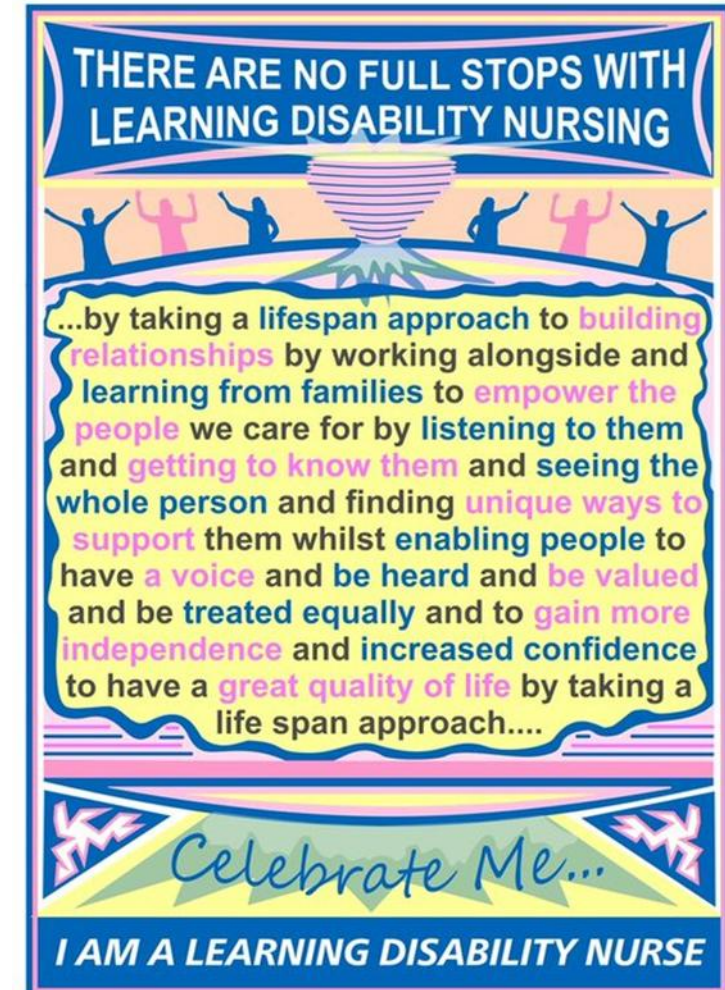
# New Community of Practice: LD Nursing Workforce & Education (South East)

First online meeting was on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Next meeting will be in January 2025 (date tbc)

Some of the things we might talk about:

- Keeping our current LD Nursing courses and developing new ones.
- LD Nursing Apprenticeships
- LD student nurse placements
- Promoting and celebrating the LD nurse identity
- How to encourage more people to sign up to LD nurse training
- LD Nurse career pathways & professional development
- Workforce demand/vacancy data
- How can we show that the LD Nurse role is unique and essential?



If you are interested in attending or know someone else who may want to join, please email:

Daisy Hack

[daisy.hack@nhs.net](mailto:daisy.hack@nhs.net)





# Questions





Sussex Partnership  
NHS Foundation Trust

*Thank you for your time*

 @SPFT\_NHS

 Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

 Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

 sussex\_partnership\_nhs

 [sussexpartnership.nhs.uk](https://sussexpartnership.nhs.uk)

**HEADS**  [headsoncharity.org](https://headsoncharity.org)