

Name of Forum	RCN Learning Disability Nursing	Date of Report	September 2023
Professional Lead	Jonathan Beebee	Forum Chair	Michael Brown

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:

Katy Welsh attended Specialist Reference Group with QNI re Community Learning Disability Nursing SPQ standards.

Katy Welsh and Michelle Parker have attended a number of meetings with the RCN to discuss the development of the Professional Framework

Sarah Jackson, Lynn Marsh, and Giselle Cope attended RCN Congress. An emergency item was passed on avoiding inappropriate placement of autistic people. This resolution was unanimously passed and meetings have begun to form a RCN Position Statement as a result

Michael Brown chaired an event for RCN Scotland “A Conversation with Learning Disability Nurses” as part of the RCN History of Learning Disability Nursing exhibition which moved to RCN Scotland HQ in April.

Michelle Parker has been attending planning meetings with the Professional Lead for Health and Justice and a IHSC Lead Nurse to plan a conference for learning disability nurses in the Criminal Justice System. The conference is planned for October at Winchester University and has provisionally got NHSE funding.

What has been the impact or difference made as a result of the member representation; for example you might want to consider:

- How has it informed practice (e.g. clinical, policy, education, research) and the work of the forum/organisation?
- How has it influenced developments/changes in areas of practice (e.g. clinical, policy, education, research)?
- How has it impacted any of our positions?
- Has it provided intelligence that the RCN would not have known without representation?
- How has the representation raised the profile of the RCN?

We have supported the QNI’s work on SPQ standards for RNLDs

We are promoting member engagement with our work on Professional Framework

We are in the process of developing a position statement on autism

The history of learning disability nursing exhibition finishes 31st October and has contributed to raising the profile of RNLDs and engagement from our RNLD members.

We have promoted RNLDs working in social care and health and justice settings which have typically received low levels of attention.

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

The RCN Learning Disability Nursing Forum, The UK Learning Disability Nurse Consultant Network, and the Learning and Intellectual Disability Network have been communicating with the CNOs for the UK in relation to re-igniting their previous “Strengthening the Commitment” to address the decline in RNLDs and students. The CNO’s replied suggesting we take this work forward and they will support. We wish to hold a learning disability nursing summit at RCN HQ as we did in 2018 to get CNOs and other key stakeholders together to reconsider the urgent action needed to promote and preserve the profession. As booking processes for Cowdrey Hall have changed since 2018 we need support from FGG to take this forward. An FGG bid has been submitted separately.