

Shona Cornish

Community Modern Matron,
Livewell Southwest

On a typical day

As the Matron for community nursing services, there is no typical day.

Each day starts a little differently and faces a new challenge.

My role is to support the quality and safety of the services in line with development and innovation.



One of the ways I've made a difference as a nurse

I was the second community nurse within Livewell to be presented with the title of Queens Nurse. This is something I hold very close to my heart and I feel within the service I support, I have showcased this role and encouraged others to apply for the title. As a result, we now have further Queens's nurses across the organisation and regularly hold South West QNI events.

My biggest challenge to date is raising the profile of the diverse role of community nursing "the hidden service" and what we can offer Newly Qualified Nurses or those returning to work. By showcasing the role of District Nursing services at every level and supporting differing approaches to recruitment, we have been successful in growing the nursing workforce significantly. Highlighting the role of the community registered nurse to preceptors, workforce planning and sharing this growth and development has helped us address workforce challenges, and we are fully recruited in some areas.

We now have significant numbers of preceptors who are looking to start their career within the community. Encompassing positively the differing roles of community nursing workforce has also supported internal growth and retention.

I actively meet with all preceptors and link with them from recruitment to meetings within the teams. It is important for staff to know who is leading their services and feel they can have a discussion and make suggestions to improve joy at work and increase standards of care.

The role of the Nursing Associate was first piloted with 11 staff in the first cohort within community nursing all who have qualified and or gone on to develop their passion further into their nursing training. The role has been positively accepted within the District nursing service

What would you say to someone considering a career in nursing & midwifery?

Be open minded about where your career choice can take you, every journey adds to your pathway. Whatever role you take within nursing or midwifery please hold dear to your heart that you can make a difference every day... YOU WILL make a difference to someone.

**Find out more about our nursing and midwifery people stories by
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