

## Our South West nursing and midwifery people

**Rosie Luce**  
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### On a typical day

I start at 8 am, and Monday 4th May was my first day as NHS England and NHS Improvement Assistant Director for Quality and Safeguarding for the South West region. In this new role I will be supporting the safeguarding transformation across the Integrated Care Systems as the Integrated Care Systems develop effective safeguarding arrangements in line with the needs of the local population. I am therefore in the process of making connections with the South West region system leaders across health and social care, as well as community safety partnerships and other partnership boards.



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

As a nurse with over 35 years' experience, and with a broad portfolio, I have utilised nursing, legal and system leadership to improve systems for people and communities that may need additional support or protection. An example where I have made a difference relates to a collaborative piece of work where I was the lead author who worked across seven local authorities and through the West Midlands Modern Slavery Network. One of the outcomes was to co-create the strategy, policy and guidance regarding Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking across the West Midlands and help co-ordinate the multi-agency responses.

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

It can be hard work, but the choice of path is frequently yours. Your own interests and life experiences may influence that direction. However, the profession is broad and varied, as is the possible settings where you might work. My background is adult's, children's and specialist community public health nurse- health visiting. I always wanted to cover all ages and spent many years working within communities. My earlier nursing career related to children's intensive care and cardio-thoracic and later, community health, nursing homes and the charitable sector. I am now a nurse and academic lawyer with a genuine interest in law, research, safeguarding, public protection and public engagement. In short, there



are lots of study and work opportunities where you can learn, progress with your career and continue to serve people and communities. The choice and next steps are yours.

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