

NHS England and NHS Improvement
South West House
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

12 May 2021

Dear Nurses, Midwives and Supporting Teams

I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank you for your continued dedication to the Nursing and Midwifery profession. On this day it is important that we pause and reflect on the tremendous achievements of you and your teams.

Whilst I appreciate that this is a year like no other, it is crucial that we find time to celebrate both International Day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day.

Across the Region, we have over 37,000 nurses and over 2,000 midwives in post and as a profession we are helping to lead the way in healthcare, research, and innovation.

I see this as an opportunity to pay tribute to each and every one of you. Thank you for working tirelessly within your services across the South West.

I also appreciate that you may have had to adapt your home life in order to ensure patients receive the highest quality of care and for this we are extremely grateful.

Importantly, thank you for arriving home late, for changing your shift pattern at short notice, for continuing to smile on tough days, constantly adapting, and altering your personal arrangements in order to allow us to tackle the pandemic in a way the United Kingdom can be proud of.

A very special thank you to all the children who have shared with us their Mothers, Fathers, Aunties, Uncles, Godparents and Grandparents.

I am so grateful for all the support you provide.

With best wishes



Sue Doheny
Regional Chief Nurse (South West)