

NHS Learning Disabilities Employment



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To:

CEOs of Foundation Trusts and Trusts
HR Directors of Foundation Trusts and Trusts
NHS England Regional Directors
HR Directors of providers of NHS-funded care
CCG Clinical Leaders
CC: Accountable Officer

9th November, 2015

We are writing to update you on the next steps in our work to increase employment of people with learning disabilities in the NHS - a key priority in the Five Year Forward View. This was recently echoed in the [CQC's Public Engagement Strategy](#), which noted that it is the responsibility of all of us to lead the way on creating an inclusive workforce that is representative of the patients we serve.

As you may be aware, on 23rd September we published the tools and guidance on the NHS Employers [webpage](#) to provide support to NHS organisations. Through the process of drawing together the tools and guidance, we have heard about a substantial amount of good work that NHS organisations are already doing in this area.

To promote existing work, build partnerships with organisations who can provide you with support, help NHS organisations start or do more, we are holding two engagement events that we hope you will be able to attend: [Manchester \(25 November\)](#) and [London \(9 December\)](#). At these events we will also help organisations to address potential barriers to employing people with learning disabilities.

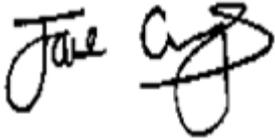
As senior leaders in the NHS, we would encourage you to show your commitment to employing people with learning disabilities by signing up to the [pledge](#).

We would be keen to meet with you to mark one year since the launch of the programme in June 2016. We will collate work done to date and highlight best practice, in addition to sharing experience of employees with learning disabilities. We will be in touch about this at a later date.

High quality care for all, now and for future generations

Please email england.LDNHSEmployment@nhs.net should you have any questions, and I look forward to working with you over the coming months.

Best wishes,

Handwritten signature of Jane Cummings in black ink.

Jane Cummings
Chief Nursing Officer
NHS England

Handwritten signature of Danny Mortimer in black ink.

Danny Mortimer
Chief Executive
NHS Employers