

North West Allied Health Professions (AHP) Workforce Board Members



Susan Jones

Job Title: Head of Clinical Professions/Co-Chair of North West AHP Workforce Board

Organisation: The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Role: Responsible for the operational and strategic management of 8 services i.e. Audiology, Nutrition and Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Orthotics, Orthoptics, Podiatry, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy. Also acts as the AHP lead for the trust. A member of the trust's strategic management group and workforce board and leads on workforce planning for the trust's division of Diagnostics and Clinical Support.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Dietitian in 1981 and following a clinical career in dietetics took up the role of Dietetic Service Manager for the then Rochdale Healthcare NHS Trust in 1988. Appointed to current post in 2004. Active role in the British Dietetic Association where has held many positions including that of Chairman from 2003-2005. Member of National AHP Advisory Board 2009-2012. Member of North West AHP Workforce Board since its formation and has recently taken on the role of co-chair of the Board.



Sue Louth

Job Title: North West AHP Workforce Lead/Co-Chair of North West AHP Workforce Board

Organisation: Health Education North West

Role: Responsible for the management and delivery of work programmes to support the development of the regional AHP workforce, to ensure it is fit for purpose and able to deliver excellent care. This includes developing leadership capability, supporting the work of the North West Modernisation Hub to develop new ways of working and innovative roles, supporting strategies for graduate employment and influencing CPD priorities.

Co-chair of the North West AHP Workforce Board and through this Board facilitates the provision of professional workforce and education intelligence to key stakeholders. Also provides professional leadership to all AHPs across the region and ensures there are effective systems in place to support two way communications with them.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Dietitian in 1990 and undertook a series of clinical and leadership roles in a number of hospitals. 1996-2004 was Dietetic Manager across an acute hospital trust and their local community services. 1999-2002 also undertook the role of lead manager for education and training across the AHP services and from 2002-2004 was the AHP lead role for clinical governance. In 2004 moved into a post as Clinical Governance manager within the medical directorate of a large acute hospital before moving to current role in 2006.



**Dr. Alison
Chambers**

Job Title: Dean of Academic Development and Employability

Organisation: University of Central Lancashire

Role: Strategic and operational leadership and management of the Centre for Academic Development and Employability. The Centre supports staff and student academic development in relation to learning and teaching, incorporating the Centre for Research Informed Teaching and leads initiatives relating to student employability, retention and student experience.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1985 and worked in clinical Physiotherapy roles from 1985 to 1995. Moved to a post as Lecturer/Director of Physiotherapy at the University of Salford in 1995. In 2002 took up post of Head of Department of Allied Health Professions at UCLan and in 2008 became Head of School of Public Health and Clinical Sciences. From 2011 to 2012 was Dean of School of Psychology before taking up current role.



Catherine Walsh

Job Title: Radiology and Breast Services Manager

Organisation: Bolton NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Duties incorporate the delivery, management and supervision of Radiology and Breast Services, including the deployment of all staff and non staff resources, adherence to all aspects of clinical governance requirements, legislation, compliance with national/local targets and QA requirements. Duties also include the management of associated budgets, efficiencies plus local strategic planning as well as student training and welfare.

Professional Career: Qualified as a registered Diagnostic Radiographer and undertook an MBA in 2010. Has worked as a Senior Manager, with several years experience within an integrated primary and secondary care foundation trust. Member of the North West Radiology Managers professional support group and member of the North West AHP Workforce Board for several years. Invited Vice Chair of the United Kingdom Radiological Conference in 2010 and currently studying for the Institute of Healthcare Managers Accreditation Programme.



Denise Prescott

Job Title: Director of Continuing Professional Development, School of Health Sciences

Organisation: University of Liverpool

Role: Programme Lead MSc Advanced Practice in Health Care Lecturer in Physiotherapy Studies.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1983 and until 2001 was a clinical manager in the NHS responsible for the operational management and continuing professional development of Allied Health Professionals. During this time, attained a Masters of Arts degree in Industrial Relations and a Masters in Business Administration degree, both of which facilitated greater understanding of the professional role.

Commenced employment with The University of Liverpool in 2001 as a lecturer in the Physiotherapy Directorate. Current role is Director of Continuing Professional Development in the School of Health Sciences. Has developed and delivered both profession specific and multi-professional modules for health and social care professionals at level 6 and at Master's level. Currently studying for a PhD in Education Research.



Elizabeth Birchall

Job Title: AHP Directorate Manager

Organisation: Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Manages AHP Services (Adults/Childrens) within the Clinical and Scientific Services Division.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Physiotherapist and practiced in a range of clinical roles within Manchester and overseas. Specialist interest in acute medicine, stroke and rehabilitation. In 1994, commenced a management role within a rehabilitation hospital (Barnes Hospital, Cheadle). In 2001, this role broadened to manage AHP Services at Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Between 1998 and 2004, this included taking on the Clinical Director and Directorate Manager role for Rehabilitation Services. In 2008 completed the Leadership Through Effective People Management MSc at Manchester University with an elective placement in Bolton.



Gillian Rose

Job Title: Acting Divisional General Manager, Diagnostic and Clinical Support (Therapies, Pharmacy, Radiology, Pathology and Patient Admin)

Organisation: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust

Role: Commenced the role in December 2011 which includes responsibility for a range of acute and primary care focused services including AHPs in Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Orthotics, and Radiography.

Substantive post is Clinical Director for Therapy services within the same Trust.

Professional Career: HPC registered Physiotherapist with experience as a clinician and manager in acute and community physiotherapy services. Has worked in London, Kent, Merseyside, Manchester and Cheshire and Lancashire and as AHP manager in three different organisations. Awarded an NHS bursary to complete an MBA and subsequently worked in NHS general management and then nationally for the NHS modernisation agency/NHS employers. Returned to the NHS in current substantive post in 2007.



Heidi Denham

Job Title: Professional Lead for Orthoptics

Organisation: Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Responsible for the overall management of an Orthoptic Service, providing clinical and professional leadership and direction, in addition to managerial duties.

Professional Career: Qualified from Sheffield University in 1995. Worked as a single handed Orthoptist in Denmark as the only orthoptist in the region. Senior Orthoptist in Wigan, leading on their vision screening programme, and became a clinic tutor. Senior Orthoptist at Frimley Park Hospital taking on extended roles within low vision, ocular hypertension and fundus photography. Senior Orthoptist at North Hampshire Hospitals in acute and community settings. Working in current role as Professional Lead for Orthoptics for Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust (previously Salford PCT) for the past 10 years. Member of BIOS heads of service and specific educational needs special interest groups and recently joined the North West AHP Workforce Board.



Helen Clements

Job Title: Radiotherapy Service Manager

Organisation: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Currently Head of Radiotherapy at the Rosemere Cancer Centre in Preston and represents the specialty of Therapy Radiography on the North West AHP Workforce Board.

Professional Career: Following qualification as a Therapy Radiographer at the Oxford School of Radiography in the early eighties, has worked in a succession of roles in Therapy Radiography and oncology. Also sits on the Radiotherapy Professional Advisory Committee, University of Liverpool, the Divisional Board for Specialist Services, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the Lancashire and South Cumbria Network Radiotherapy Group and the North West Radiotherapy Managers Forum. Has been a clinical representative on the Management committee of the Rosemere Cancer Foundation since 2008.



John Gillespie

Job Title: Head of Clinical Education

Organisation: North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Role: Responsible for the transition of Paramedic training to the education pathway that now supports the paramedics of the future. Supports clinical supervision and leadership, post qualification and pre-registration programmes across the region. Has supported the need to have the paramedic voice heard among the Allied Health Professionals for many years.

Professional Career: Working for the NHS Ambulance Service for 26 years. Became a Paramedic in 1990 and quickly moved into ambulance education, training and development. Has progressed through operational support roles to Training Manager developing paramedic practice for the Greater Manchester Service.

When the North West Service was formed, moved into the role of Head of Clinical Education.



Kay Hack

Job Title: Associate Head Academic, School of Health Sciences

Organisation: University of Salford

Role: Responsible for quality assurance of learning, teaching and enhancement within the School which includes the Directorates of Sport Exercise and Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Radiography, Prosthetics and Orthotics and Podiatry, and Psychology and Public Health.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Chartered Physiotherapist in 1981 and worked in the NHS between 1981-1984, 1986-1987 and 1998-2001 with neurology as an area of specialism. Undertook the role of Research Assistant at the University of Strathclyde between 1985 and 1986. Held posts as Lecturer in Physiotherapy at Queen Margaret College, Edinburgh from 1987-1991 and at Glasgow Caledonian University from 1994-1997. Moved to a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Physiotherapy post at the University of Salford in 2001 and in 2009 became Associate Head Academic in the School of Health Sciences, University of Salford.



Kerry Hemsworth

Job Title: Assistant Director of Education and Commissioning

Organisation: Health Education North West

Role: Leads on a broad portfolio of responsibilities within workforce and education including leading on the commissioning for the Allied Health Professions across the North West and nationally for Orthoptics and Prosthetics and Orthotics.

Professional Career: Professional background is as a Biomedical Scientist (Blood Transfusion) for the first 16 years of NHS career. For the last 16 years, has been working in the field of workforce and education within the North West. Key activities include leading the implementation of education programmes for Paramedics in line with national policy requirements, representing on the Allied Health Professional Advisory Board, representing on the Paramedic Evidence-based Education Project, leading work to enable the development of a fit for purpose Prosthetics and Orthotics workforce and chairing and co-ordinating the Lead SHA Orthoptics Education Group.

Has also completed a term of office on the Learning and Development Board of the College of Occupational Therapists which provided me with useful insight to the agenda for a professional body.



Lesley Walters

Job Title: Integrated Therapy Manager

Organisation: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Strategic and operational responsibility for service delivery within Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy services. AHP lead role (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Dietetics) for service developments and redesign projects.

Professional Career: Qualified as a Chartered Physiotherapist 1981 and worked as a clinical Physiotherapist until 1995, then moved into management roles. Has also undertaken the AHP lead role for Lancashire and South Cumbria Cancer Network since 2005.



Lisa Deakin

Job Title: North West Workforce Programme Support Officer

Organisation: Health Education North West

Role: Secretariat to the North West AHP Workforce Board.

Professional Career: Prior to joining the NHS in 2009 worked as an administration assistant for various private healthcare insurance organisations.



Michelle Redgard

Job Title: Therapy Services Manager

Organisation: Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Management of Therapy Services across Western Cheshire health economy.

Professional Career: Commenced career as a Dietitian in 1995. Experience of working in district general hospitals, teaching hospitals and PCTs. My clinical area of work has been mainly in care of elderly/stroke and enteral feeding. Began management career in 2006 and have a wealth of experience of AHP professional roles in operational delivery. In addition to my NHS work, I have worked for the British Dietetic Association and I have chaired professional groups both regionally and locally as well as AHP Forums.

I am passionate about the work AHPs deliver and promote the value of multi-professional working.



Norah Flood

Job Title: Professional Lead for AHPs

Organisation: 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Role: In relation to all Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Podiatrists, Dietitians, Orthotists and Speech and Language Therapists responsible for ensuring the AHP workforce is safe, effective and fit for purpose. Also to give AHPs a voice both within the organisation and as representatives of the organisation

Professional Career: Qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1983 in Liverpool and worked in various parts of the country, eventually specialising in Elderly Care and Neurology. In 1995 took a position as the Manual Handling Co-ordinator for Salford Royal Hospitals and developed a wider appreciation of health care provision and developed a keen interest in risk management. In 2002 moved into a management role and in 2008 became Head of Service across AHPs working in an acute trust. In 2011 moved into an Assistant Director role in Quality and Governance in 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and in 2012 transferred that learning and knowledge into a focused Professional Lead role for AHPs working in mental health, learning disability and physical health services (both acute and community).



Sandra Wilks

Job Title: Service and Capital Planning Manager

Organisation: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Role: Liaising and negotiating with commissioners for Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Services (Lancashire and South Cumbria). Contract tendering and monitoring locally in conjunction with Supply Chain. Producing papers, reports and guidance relative to service provision, funding etc. Member of National Prosthetic Managers Forum.

Professional Career: 1985 to date Specialist Mobility and Rehabilitation Centre (SMRC) Preston, formerly known as Disablement Services Centre (DSC). Wheelchair Services Manager for 17 years, then over the last 10 years, Limb Services Manager, Limb Contracts Manager and currently Service and Capital Planning Manager.

Prior to joining Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, worked in the Civil Service and various private sector organisations.