All graduate nursing workforce - factsheet
Changes to Pre-Registration Nurse Education

Service Commissioners and Graduate Nursing

Five things you need to know:

1. By **2016**, a degree will be the minimum requirement to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and therefore all newly registered nurses will hold a **degree** in nursing. Changes to the curricula will further develop the following qualities: leadership, autonomy, analytical and critical thinking, positive risk-taking and decision-making.

2. It is anticipated that this change will also be accompanied by a **redistribution of the nursing workforce profile**. There will be increased numbers of Band 4 assistant/associate practitioners to support fewer registered Band 5 nurses; but there will also be increased numbers of nurses at Bands 7 to 9 working at a level of advanced clinical practice (e.g. nurse practitioner, consultant). This model will also be valid for allied healthcare professionals.

3. **Workforce planning linked to education and training programmes** will be essential to drive services change and streamline pathways of care to deliver quality and productivity while meeting financial challenges (e.g. assistant practitioner instead of registered nurse; nurse consultant or nurse specialist instead of junior doctor/registrar or GP).

4. Changes in **skill-mix** can start from now and **drive quality** while **generating savings**. This can be achieved by upskilling some of the existing workforce and/or using them in different roles.

5. Nurse education will support the **move of care to the community and the need to care for acutely-ill patients in their own homes** by exposing current and future students more and more to community care while retaining placements in acute and high-dependency settings.

A more detailed Q and A on the programme in South Central is on online at: [://www.nesc.nhs.uk/primary_areas/healthcare_workforce/education_commissioning/modernising_nursing_careers/education_commissioning](://www.nesc.nhs.uk/primary_areas/healthcare_workforce/education_commissioning/modernising_nursing_careers/education_commissioning).

The education commissioning lead for the graduate nursing workforce please is [prygodzicz@nesc.nhs](mailto:prygodzicz@nesc.nhs).