

Adult Social Care Nurses Network meeting **SUMMARY**

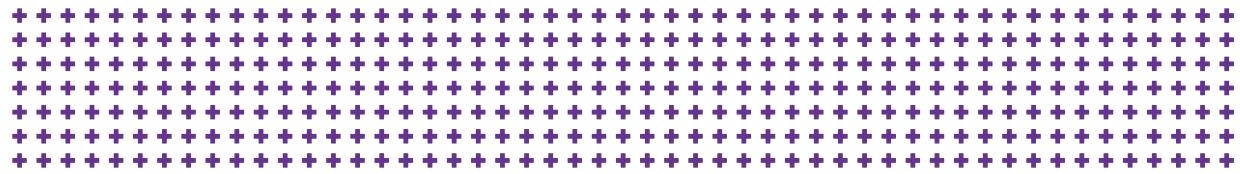
Safety in Social Care Settings

Emma Self, Programme Lead (Service Policy and Design), Primary Care, Community, Vaccinations & Screening, NHS England;

Andy O'Connell RN, Senior Nurse (LeDeR), Quality in Care Team, Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board;

Terry Pinto, Group Manager, Prevention Lead, Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service

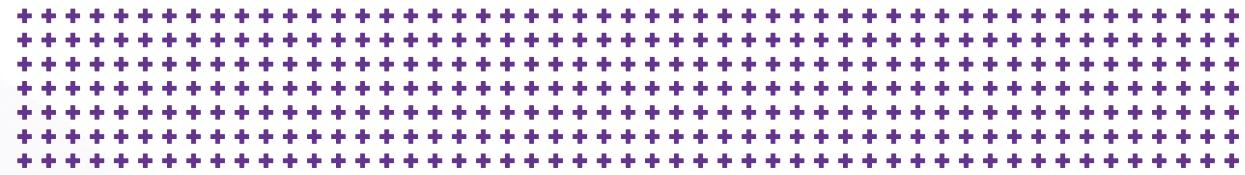
Tuesday 3 February 2026
2pm - 4pm, via Zoom



Co-Chair's Welcome

Melanie Furness QN, Co-chair for the QICN Adult Social Care Nursing Network. Nursing Moving with Dignity Team Manager/Nurse, Norfolk County Council.

- Welcome everybody! We have an excellent agenda today. Thank you to Emma, Andy and Terry for giving of their time and expertise
- This meeting will focus on safety in Adult Social Care settings.
- As you know, we have merged the Care Home Nurses Network and the IPC Champions Network and are now the Adult Social Care Nurses Network .
- To join the Adult Social Care Nurse Network, [please click here](#).
- To join our private Facebook book, [click here](#).



Enhanced Health in Care Homes

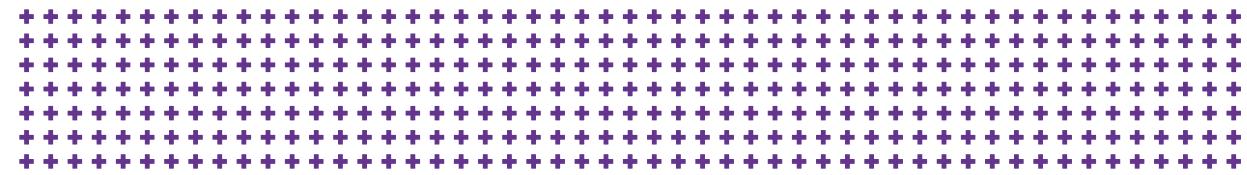
Emma Self, Programme Lead (Service Policy and Design), Primary Care, Community, Vaccinations & Screening, NHS England

Programme Overview:

- Started in 2014 with six care home vanguards.
- Aims to reduce unplanned hospital admissions through improved health and social care collaboration.
- Contractual requirements for care homes:
- Alignment with primary care networks (PCNs)
- Weekly multidisciplinary team visits
- Comprehensive assessments for new residents
- Focus areas: personalized care, structured medication reviews, care for residents with learning disabilities and autism

Care Home Health Services Update:

- Key priorities: nutrition, hydration, falls prevention, mental health support
- Emphasis on multifactorial falls interventions
- Enhanced health in care homes remains a key policy area; upcoming frameworks for frailty and dementia
- Care homes encouraged to contact local commissioners if not receiving services (participation is free, reduces primary care demand)
- Structured medication reviews should involve direct communication with residents/carers
- No current formal oversight of GP practices in care homes



Enhanced Health in Care Homes

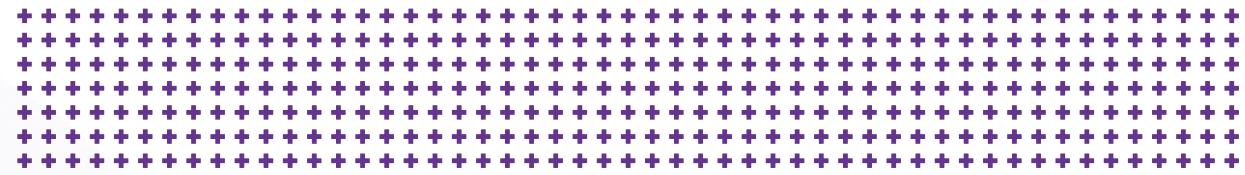
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Care Home Service Impact Assessment:

- Need to measure the impact of the modern service framework
- Enhanced Self and Cairns highlighted as key components
- Collaboration between healthcare staff and care home teams is crucial
- Expertise of care home staff acknowledged
- Questions raised on end-of-life care and access to rehabilitation services; local ICB leads should address
- Challenges in predicting end-of-life timelines and improving rehabilitation provision noted

Challenges in Care Home Technology:

- Digital support for care planning, data sharing, and communication is inconsistent; no national standard
- Importance of system interoperability highlighted
- Examples of successful local collaboration between care homes and healthcare providers shared
- Need for improved communication and partnership between NHS and social care emphasised



Emollient Fire Risk Awareness webinar

Andy O'Connell RN, Senior Nurse (LeDeR), Quality in Care Team, Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board;
Terry Pinto, Group Manager, Prevention Lead, Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service

Overview of Fire Risks:

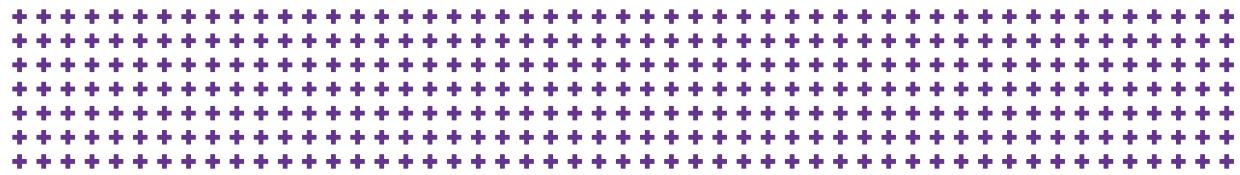
- Emollients are widely and safely used but can become fire hazards when dried on fabrics and exposed to heat.
- Both paraffin and non-paraffin emollients can act as accelerants.
- Key risk factors include smoking, portable heaters, and unsafe cooking practices.
- Case studies (Jack and Robert) illustrated real-life consequences.
- Fire risk assessments are essential, but frontline staff may lack full understanding of mitigation measures.
- Research by Professor Sarah Hall highlights fabric flammability with dried emollients, underscoring the need for awareness and prevention.

Patient and Carer Safety Advice:

- Avoid open flames when using emollients.
- Use uncontaminated outer coverings when smoking.
- Holistic risk assessments by health and care professionals should be conducted and recorded in care plans.

Fire Safety in Care Settings:

- Referral processes for home fire safety checks discussed.
- Telecare systems with smoke detectors recommended for high-risk individuals.



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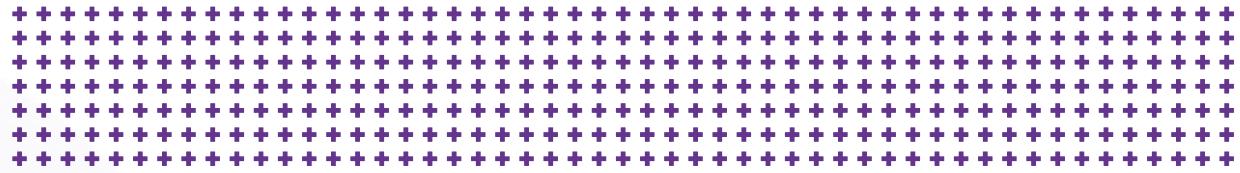
- Reporting fire incidents involving emollients via the MHRA scheme is crucial.
- Portable fire suppression units considered a last line of defence.
- Responsibility for fire safety equipment varies by setting.
- Broader project work includes training, assessments, and awareness campaigns.

Emollient Fire Risk Management Project:

- Webinars reached over 700 attendees; training incorporated into provider contracts.
- Collaboration with local carer advocacy groups and development of Easy Read materials.
- Outcomes: improved reporting, amendments to nursing assessments, better risk identification and management.
- Project received awards for partnership and collaborative working; resources available on KnowledgeNow.

Risk Assessment and Prevention Measures:

- Emphasis on staff education and training in fire safety practices.
- Encouragement for attendees to review risk assessments.
- Recommendation to implement telecare with linked monitor fire detection systems.
- Consideration of costs for misting units as part of fire prevention strategies.



Conclusion

Dr Agnes Fanning, Assistant Director of Nursing Programmes & Faculty of Adult Social Care Nursing Lead

- Agnes provided updates on the Adult Social Care Nursing Faculty, encouraging participation in surveys, writing blogs, and pursuing career progression opportunities.
- Find out more about the Faculty [here](#).

Network announcements

- The next Adult Social Care Nursing Network webinar is on Tuesday 24 March 2026, 2pm- 4pm on Zoom.
- [Sign up for the next webinar here](#) (Contact events@qicn.org.uk for a password to book your free place.)
- [Sign up to join our networks and receive email updates from the QICN here](#).
- Future meetings: if you would like to contribute to a future meeting, or have a request for information from the network, please contact agnes.fanning@qicn.org.uk. We'd welcome any suggestions for future meeting topics and would like to hear from anyone interested in writing a blog post for the QICN website.