

## AHPs and Occupational Health

The meeting started with a welcome from Dr Shriti Pattani, SOM President. She covered the opportunities for AHPs in the work and health area:

- *Diploma in Occupational Health Practice* (DipOHPrac) tbc open to AHPs in 2023-  
<https://www.fom.ac.uk/education/examinations/diplomas/dipohprac>.
- the NHS growing occupational health programme – in particular free of cost training and leadership opportunities
- Fit notes being signed off by AHPs from July  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/who-can-issue-fit-notes-guidance-for-healthcare-professionals-and-their-employers/who-can-issue-fit-notes-guidance-for-healthcare-professionals-and-their-employers>

There was a discussion as to:

- the value of AHPs in OH e.g. with pre hab; in commercial OH companies (e.g. over 80 AHPs at Optima)
- Placements – a list as attached. Contact me at [nick.pahl@som.org.uk](mailto:nick.pahl@som.org.uk) if you wish to host a placement for a student or practitioner or are interested in one

## Next steps as to focus of the group

- Draft ToR for the group to cover activities such as shadowing opportunities; sharing training and other resources such as JDs and case studies; activities such as a salary survey

## Useful Networks materials and tools

- SOM report writing webinar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ng8kS1WU6BQ>)  
Webinar on OTs in OH [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRQEMV\\_oWo0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRQEMV_oWo0) and  
Occupational Therapists in Occupational Health - website at <https://www.otforoh.com/>
- Network on MSK at work - welcome to join <https://www.som.org.uk/msk-work-network>.
- SOM hosts a special interest groups covering both clinical and professional issues at <https://www.som.org.uk/som-special-interest-groups>
- There is an OH careers site with job opportunities at <https://www.som.org.uk/careers>
- Long Covid guide  
[https://www.som.org.uk/sites/som.org.uk/files/Long\\_COVID\\_and\\_Return\\_to\\_Work\\_What\\_Works\\_0.pdf](https://www.som.org.uk/sites/som.org.uk/files/Long_COVID_and_Return_to_Work_What_Works_0.pdf)

Newcastle Occupational Health Service is planning to deliver an introduction to OH training course – details to follow

**HSE** - New guidance to support disabled workers and workers with long-term health conditions in work - [Overview - Support disabled workers and workers with long-term health conditions - HSE](#)

## Research - Opportunities for growing a multi-disciplinary OHWB clinical workforce

**Consultation** The Growing OH and Wellbeing team at NHS England wish to explore opportunities for growing a multi-disciplinary OH clinical (and non-clinical) workforce in the NHS. The London Centre for Work and Health has been commissioned to assess the current NHS OHWB landscape, to scope out opportunities to grow a multi-disciplinary OHWB NHS clinical workforce and to understand obstacles to recruitment. Senior leaders at

all NHS OH services in England are invited to contribute valuable feedback via an online questionnaire which can be accessed here: [https://qualtrics.kcl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV\\_4ZvDDGeY3URlqBE](https://qualtrics.kcl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV_4ZvDDGeY3URlqBE) or by using the QR code



shown.

You will receive a £10 voucher to reimburse you for your time. The survey will remain open until 8 January 2023. A series of online focus group sessions will be held in early 2023. **For more details: contact [vaughan.parsons@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:vaughan.parsons@gstt.nhs.uk)**