

Implementation of the NMC (2022) post-registration standards

May 2025

This report provides a breakdown of the implementation activities that have been completed following publication of the 2022 post registration standards for Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (SCPHN) and community nursing Specialist Practice Qualifications (SPQ).

SCPHN professionals are in the frontline of public health. They are culturally competent, autonomous practitioners who are committed to improving people's health and wellbeing. They understand the wider determinants of health and seek to address health inequalities across the diverse communities and populations they serve. All SCPHNs work in partnership with people to prevent ill health, protect health and promote wellbeing. Using a formidable evidence base they will lead, influence and collaborate with other agencies, organisations and professionals to improve and embed sustainable changes to the overall health and wellbeing of people at home, within communities, in schools and in the workplace.

In the 21st century, support and care of people of all ages is increasingly being delivered in the community, in people's homes and in settings close to their homes. These settings include care homes, hospices, general practice, residential and educational settings, and prisons and offender health settings. As a result, new models of community care are emerging, new nursing roles have been developed and there are likely to be more in the future. It is likely that more community nursing roles will be developed in the future that also demand higher levels of clinical autonomy. These standards therefore serve to build on current good practice and intend to promote learning and create ambition and opportunity for other registered nurses who work in the community.

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Executive Summary

Implementation of these standards commenced in September 2022 with introductory webinars and launch events in each of the four nations of the UK.

Support was then provided via national strategies, including activities such as additional webinars and facilitated sessions with professional groups such as the United Kingdom Standing Committee (UKSC - SCPHN UK programme leads), the Association for District Nurse and Community Nurse Educators (ADNE), the Association of General Practice Nurse Education network (AGPNE), the Queen's Institute for Community Nursing (QICN), the School and Public Health Nurses Association (SAPHNA) and the Faculty of Occupational Health Nursing (FOHN), as well as other professional practice associations across many areas of community health and social care settings.

Drop-in sessions were also facilitated providing access to NMC advisors and standards development specialists, where academics and practice learning partners could attend to have their queries answered. Bespoke individual sessions were also provided with each approved education institution (AEI) and those of their practice learning partner (PLP) organisations who reached out to the NMC.

Between September 2022 and March 2025, we engaged with over 4000 people from across post-registration settings such as academics, students, practice learning partners and people who use some of the services community nurses provide.

By March 2025 we had 34 AEIs approved to offer SCPHN programmes, the majority of these being Health Visiting and School Nursing programmes with four AEIs approved for Occupational Health Nursing. No AEI sought approval for the public health nurse programme within SCPHN. We also had 34 AEIs approved to deliver at least one SPQ programme, the majority being in district nursing, community children's nursing and general practice nursing. Two AEIs are approved to deliver community learning disability nursing, and one AEI is approved to deliver community mental health nursing. It is encouraging that five AEIs in England are currently approved to deliver the new SPQ in Health and Social Care and another AEI is in the process of developing this route for an approval event in the summer of 2025. There is a lot of interest from community nurses across the UK for this new opportunity, particularly for example in areas such as criminal justice and hospice settings.

Within these approved programmes only one AEI is approved to provide simulated practice learning (SPL) within their SCPHN programme. No AEI sought to include SPL within a SPQ programme. This is an area we will continue to monitor and support throughout 2025 and beyond.

Support and engagement sessions continue to be provided for students on post-registration programmes and for registrants working in relevant practice settings, these are arranged on an individual level with anyone who reaches out to us. These sessions have been instrumental in enabling us to receive feedback on the implementation and application of these standards and provide a catalyst for the development of additional resources to support AEIs, students and practice learning partners across the UK.

Background

In July 2022, new [standards of proficiency for specialist community public health nursing](#) (SCPHN) and [community nursing specialist practice qualifications](#) (SPQ) and associated [standards for post registration programmes](#), were published. This followed extensive engagement and a 12-week public consultation with people who use services and stakeholders across all four nations of the United Kingdom (UK).

The first phase began with a UK wide webinar introducing the standards. See - [Where next for the SCPHN standards](#) and [Building on ambitions for community and public health nursing - The Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)

In 2022 there were more than 771,000 nurses, midwives and nursing associates (in England) registered with NMC. Of those who were nurses or midwives, 29,649 also held a SCPHN qualification with 18,426 nurses holding a community nursing SPQ qualification.

In 2022 there were 35 Approved Education Institutions (AEIs) approved to deliver SCPHN programmes across the UK (the majority offered health visiting (HV) and school nursing (SN) programmes, and some offered HV, SN and occupational health nursing (OHN), with only two AEIs approved to offer the public health nurse route (PHN)). However, this did not mean that these programmes always ran.

In addition, 35 AEIs were approved to offer community nursing SPQ programmes, with the majority only offering district nursing (DN) programmes, followed by general practice nursing (GPN). Only England and Northern Ireland had community children's nursing (CCN) and community learning disability (CLD) programmes in place, and the only community mental health nursing (CMH) programme approved was in England.

The 2022 community nursing SPQ standards offer ambitious new learning and career opportunities in community nursing with a new community SPQ qualification in community health and social care (HSC) nursing. This additional qualification provides nurses working within the fields of health and social care the potential of extending their development through attainment of the community nursing SPQ in the context of health and social care.

To support the safe application of these standards a two-year programme of implementation activity commenced in September 2022. Its aim was to provide support and advice across the UK for all approved education institutions (AEIs) and practice learning partners (PLPs) to enable effective understanding, application and embedding of the updated standards for post-registration practice. Dedicated nurse education advisors were appointed to lead and coordinate the supportive implementation activity. The support and engagement on these standards were integral to their future success and the benefits for the public of community nurses' education against the 2022 SCPHN and community nursing SPQ standards.

Implementation objectives

1. Raising awareness of the 2022 post-registration standards.

Our approach to support implementation of these standards aimed to reach as many AEs as possible, as well as PLPs, professional groups and wider stakeholder organisations, including members of the public, through group forums and advocacy groups. Providing support and comprehensive information to enable effective understanding and widespread dissemination was of paramount importance, aiming for widespread adoption of these post-registration standards across the UK for the benefit and protection of individuals, communities and the wider population that professionals with these qualifications serve

1.1 Introductory engagement activities

1.1 In 2022, following the publication of the new standards we held two webinars, one for SCPHN and one for community nursing SPQ. These were open to colleagues in AEs and PLPs across the UK. Large numbers of people attended from AEs and practice learning partners in all four nations of the UK.

1.2 Country specific in-person launch events occurred in each of the four nations of the UK, with England, Northern Ireland and Scotland being delivered between October and December 2022 and Wales in 2023. (The autumn 2022 Welsh launch event was delayed due to Higher Education industrial action).

1.3 At these events we had both NMC and local speakers promoting the 2022 standards. Attendance included professionals, stakeholders, employers and academics with an interest in the post-registration qualifications. Each launch event had an attendance of 65 to 100 people, with 365 people in total attending across the four events.

2. Supporting Approved Education Institutions (AEIs)

A key driver behind our activities at this time was to provide information and support that would enable all AEs and their practice learning partners to develop new programmes in line with the 2022 post-registration standards prior to the 1 September 2024 deadline, this being the date when the previous standards for these programmes would be withdrawn.

Pre-2022 the programmes approved by country and area of practice are outlined in Tables B1 and B2 below.

Table 1 Pre-2022 SCPHN programmes approved

Country	Health visiting	School Nursing	Occupational health nursing	Public health nursing
England	35	28	5	2
Northern Ireland	1	1	0	0
Scotland	4	4	1	0
Wales	2	2	0	0

Table 2 Pre-2022 community nursing SPQ programmes approved

Country	District Nursing	General practice nursing	Community children's nursing	Community mental health nursing	Community learning disability nursing
England	35	10	6	1	1
Northern Ireland	1	0	1	0	1
Scotland	3	0	0	0	0
Wales	2	0	0	0	0

3. Engaging with the public

During the implementation process, one of the key concerns from AEI colleagues was how they can meaningfully engage with people who use services, their carers and the public. Some AEIs already had robust processes in place with a strong network of people who were fundamental to the development of their programmes. This was more apparent across the District Nursing SPQ than any other programme. For example, one AEI shared their contacts with VOCAL, a charity organisation who work with the public supporting them to be involved with hospital and community health and research initiatives. VOCAL also work with AEIs as part of programme development. As part of the process to support the development of programmes in partnership with members of the public, we welcomed the opportunity to speak to their charity lead and some members of the public who accessed SPQ district nursing, community children's

nursing and SCPHN health visiting, school nursing and occupational health nursing services.

We also engaged directly with members of the public through participation in development events and individual meetings. The experiences and accounts of the lived experience were emotive, powerful, and embedded the essence of person-centred care and informed post-registration programme development.

To support colleagues across the UK in their partnership working with the public, we provided one webinar tailored to engaging with the public and students. We organised for VOCAL to share their methods and techniques in reaching out to the public on this bespoke webinar, presenting alongside a gentleman from Scotland who accessed district nursing services and was part of the AEI development team and a lady from the north of England who has accessed health visiting, school nursing and community children's nursing and regularly works with her local AEI (see appendix 4, page 15 for feedback).

4. Engaging with post-registration students

It was also essential to talk to post-registration students and gather their experiences of being part of programme development and delivery. We reached out to students through some of the relevant professional groups such as the Association of District Nurse and Community Nurse Educators (ADNE), the Association of Academic General Practice Nurse Educators (AAGPNE), the United Kingdom Standing Conference (UKSC), the Institute of Health Visiting (IHV) and the School and Public Health Nurses Association (SAPHNA). Some students were keen to support this webinar, with SCPHN school nursing and SPQ district nursing students providing their views and thoughts on working with programme teams through recruitment, assessment and development of programme.

During 2023 and 2024 engagement continued with some post-registration students around the value their contribution brings to the programmes, including how their feedback is collated and acted upon as part of the programme development process. Students from school nursing for SCPHN and district nursing for community SPQ programmes were also part of the webinar, *Engaging with students and the public*, delivered in June 2023.

Wider student engagement has commenced. This is one of the ways we can proactively support and influence the future workforce – this also enables post-registration students to learn more about the work of the NMC. We can also use this as an opportunity to gather feedback on how the 2022 standards are working for them. This also provides an ideal opportunity to assess where any additional guidance or information is needed.

AEIs have been reached through their professional groups such as ADNE and UKSC. Contact through the local government representatives in NIPEC, HEIW, NHSE WTE and NES has also been achieved.

Engagement with students on newly approved SCPHN and community nursing SPQ programmes began in November 2024 and will continue throughout 2025. This is an ongoing project within the post-registration standards implementation work.

Table 3 SCPHN student sessions

Country	Students seen in 2023	Students seen in 2024	Students in 2025 (to March 2025)	AEI booked for 2025 (March- Dec)
England	62	56 students	111 students	4
Northern Ireland	2	0	0	0
Scotland	4	0	0	1
Wales	4	0	25 students	0

Table 4 Community nursing SPQ student sessions

Country	Students seen in 2023	Students seen in 2024	Students seen in 2025 (to March 2025) 2025	AEI booked for 2025 (March- Dec)
England	6	7 students	30 students	3
Northern Ireland	2	0	0	0
Scotland	6	0	0	1
Wales	4	0	0	0

5 Activities with AEIs

5.1 Programme specific webinars

In 2023, four additional programme specific webinars were delivered with the objective being to provide information for AEIs and PLPs. These were developed to provide clarity and aid interpretation of the 2022 programme standards and illustrate how these should be considered when working in partnership to develop new curricula and programmes in preparation for seeking approval with the NMC.

Table 5 Links to Webinars available on the NMC website

Webinars
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction to SCPHN standards (October 2022)2. Introduction to SPQ standards (October 2022)3. Workshop: Understanding our new SCPHN standards (March 2023)4. Standards for Post- Registration Programmes (NMC 2022) Specialist Community Public Health Nurse (SCPHN) Community Nursing Specialist Practice Qualification (SPQ) (Jun 2023)5. Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment in post registration including prescribing (April 2023)6. Engaging with students and the public in post registration (June 2023)7. SCPHN (Standards of proficiency for specialist community public health nurses (SCPHN) - The Nursing and Midwifery Council (March 2025)8. SPQ (Standards of proficiency for community nursing specialist practice qualifications (SPQ) - The Nursing and Midwifery Council (March 2025)

All webinars were delivered using Microsoft Teams, recorded and published on the NMC website for future reference and accessibility. In total over 1400 people attended the webinars.

5.2 Tailored support for AEIs

Specific support through presentations and Question/Answer sessions with individual AEIs were offered to all AEIs, through webinars, newsletters and responding to email enquiries. Each AEI that opted in for this support was able to identify their individual requirements and how they would like these sessions delivered. Sessions were provided both face to face and online. Interest in these sessions was significant with a total of 25 (n= 34) AEIs receiving individual support sessions for SCPHN programmes, and 11 (n=34) AEIs reaching out regarding their community nursing SPQ programmes.

In addition, Northern Ireland AEIs leads attended the collaborative working group that NIEPC had put in place on behalf of their Chief Nursing Officer. This group provided monthly meetings throughout the development phases to support AEIs and practice

learning partners. We attended each of these collaborative sessions and were able to provide additional support through this process.

A total of 771 academics attended these sessions during January 2023 to September 2024. We continue to offer support for both SCPHN and community nursing SPQ programmes, students and practitioners across the UK.

Evaluative feedback was gathered following each session (see appendix 1). It was evident that some AElS were keen to develop direct entry funded programmes and some AElS in England were moving to the apprenticeship model for SCPHN and community nursing SPQ programmes. Equally some AElS in England offer options for both routes across their selection of post registration programmes/routes and qualifications.

Table 6 AEI activity data

Approved education institutions (AEI)	2023	2024	Total
Number of participants	679	92	771

Table 7 SCPHN programme sessions

Year	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
2023	32	0*	6	3
2024	3	0*	4	2

Table 8 community nursing SPQ programme sessions

Year	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
2023	8	0*	10	3
2024	3	0*	6	2

5.3. Online drop-in sessions

Online drop-in sessions through MS Teams were facilitated by NMC nursing education advisors and standards development specialists in the Professional Practice directorate. These sessions were provided for colleagues in AEIs and their PLPs and were designed to provide an open access for support and queries relating to the implementation of the post-registration standards. Initial uptake across the UK ranged from 14-30 people attending each session from both AEIs and practice learning partner settings. Drop-in sessions were provided between June 2023 and December 2023. They were initially provided twice weekly, reducing to weekly and then fortnightly as attendance decreased in the final few months of the transition period. A total of 14 drop-in sessions were provided, with a total of 165 participants attending from AEIs and practice.

Feedback was extremely positive, and many appreciated the opportunity to speak informally with NMC colleagues. Examples included that it was good to hear the experiences of others and share learning, and it had been useful to dispel some myths about the NMC (See Appendix 2). Building on the success of these drop-in sessions, regular monthly drop-in sessions are now held monthly for AEIs and PLPs delivering education across the suite of NMC standards.

6. Professional groups and forums

Concurrent to supporting AEIs and PLPs with their curricula/programme development plans, it was also imperative to ensure all stakeholders for SCPHN and community nursing SPQ programmes had access to the information and support available. This began with attendance and presentation at professional groups for each field of practice within SCPHN and community nursing SPQ practitioners, such as the United Kingdom Standing Conference (UKSC) for SCPHN programme leads and the Association of District and Community Nurse Educators (ADNE), the Association of Academic General Practice Nurse Educators (AAGPNE) Community Children's Nurse (CCN) group. We supported and attended 13 different professional groups/forums, some on multiple occasions at their request.

It was crucial to ensure we reached some of the smaller forums and supported equal representation, in particular sharing the availability of options for the new Health and Social Care pathway within the community nursing SPQ programmes and occupational health nursing and public health nursing within SCPHN programmes. Hospice UK and Homecare UK were two organisations who demonstrated a keen interest in the health and social care programme route and how it would offer development opportunities for their nurses. A total of 1,253 people, from both practice and educational institutions, were reached through these professional forums.

Table 9 SCPHN professional groups

SCPHN professional group	Number of participants 2023	Number of participants 2024
Institute of Health Visiting (IHV)	87	43
United Kingdom specialist committee for SCPHN (UKSC)	116	61
School and public health nurse association (SAPHNA)	103	113
Faculty of occupational health nurses (FOHN)	71	0
Total	376	217

Table 10 Community nursing SPQ professional groups

SPQ professional group	Number of participants 2023	Number of participants 2024
Association district nurse and community nurse educators (ADNE)	104	70
Hospice UK	46	0
Association of academic general practice nurse educators (AAGPNE)	68	5

Children community nurses UK group	43	23
Prison and probation services	24	0
Homecare UK	89	0
Learning Disability Nurses symposium	52	25
Mental health nurse forum	46	12
Skills for care	38	15
Total	510	150

7. Outcome of AEI programme approvals

Individual AEIs and their practice learning partners submit their request for an approval event date based on the date they intend for their programme to commence. As post-registration programmes start dates vary between AEIs (most often they have September or January intakes) we had anticipated that some AEIs would be early adopters for an autumn 2023 start date. However, only five AEI's requested dates before 2024.

AEIs in England who intended to offer an apprenticeship programme route were required to map their curricula to meet both NMC and apprenticeship standards. The apprenticeship standards for community nursing SPQ were published as approved for delivery in September 2023, and for SCPHN in November 2023. This delayed AEIs requesting approval dates in 2023.

Full time and part time programme routes have now been approved, with many AEIs offering programmes at post-graduate diploma level, with a small minority of AEIs also offering a full master's programme.

7.1 SCPHN approvals (March 2025)

By March 2025, 34 AEIs had their SCPHN programme approved, compared to 35 in 2022. This included 9 AEIs in England offering level 7 apprenticeship routes for SCPHN programmes. However, it is acknowledged that one university opted out of running a SCPHN programme due to decreased demand, and another has an approval event planned for June 2025.

No AEI sought approval for the public health nursing pathway as part of the SCPHN programme. This presents a risk for this field of SCPHN and suggests a need to support both AEIs and practice learning partners in recognising the strengths and opportunities for the public health nurse route within the workforce.

Currently one AEI is approved to offer the Return to Practice (RtP) SCPHN programme, against the 2022 SCPHN standards. No other AEIs have sought approval for RtP SCPHN programmes.

Table 11 SCPHN programme approval data (March 2025)

SCPHN Programme routes	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total AEI
Health Visiting	26	1	5	2	34
School Nursing	23	1	3	1	28
Occupational Health Nursing	3	0	1	0	4
Public Health Nursing	0	0	0	0	0

7.2 Community nursing SPQ programme approval data (March 2025)

By March 2025, 34 AEIs had approval for a community SPQ programme, compared to 35 in 2022. This included 14 AEIs in England offering level 7 apprenticeship routes for SPQ programmes.

Table 12 Community nursing SPQ programme approval (March 2025)

SPQ programme route	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Number of AEIs
District Nursing	29	1	2	2	34
Community children's nursing	7	1	1	1	10
General practice nursing	10	1	0	1	12
Health and social care nursing	5	0	0	0	5
Community mental health nursing	0	1	0	0	1
Community learning disability nursing	1	1	0	0	2

All AEIs who made use of the support available reported that they have been able to fully understand the standards and the requirements for their respective programme development with practice learning partner teams. Furthermore, every AEI who used the initial support continues to engage with us and they have all been supported with their enquiries.

8. Support for practice learning partners (PLP)

As a direct result of information gained through the drop-in sessions, it was apparent that we needed to go further to reach all practitioners in SCPHN and SPQ community nursing practice, to provide updates and increase awareness of the 2022 standards. These continue to be delivered as additional sessions to individual practice organisations.

8.1 Activity with PLPs

Support was provided through delivery of a presentation providing an overview of the standards (this included information across all spheres in SCPHN proficiency standards and all domains in community nursing SPQ proficiency standards). Additionally, we provided insights into how professionals can demonstrate knowledge of the 2022 post-registration standards through their individual revalidation and continuous professional development (CPD). It was also important to reiterate how existing professionals with these qualifications would support post-registration students in practice by applying and adhering to the NMC's Standards for student supervision and assessment.

This work continues as more health and care organisations seek ongoing support and updates for their teams.

8.2 Practice learning partner (PLP) support sessions in 2024 and 2025

Support sessions with PLPs continued into 2025 with some areas having confirmed dates for sessions. To date in 2025 SCPHN PLP sessions have reached an additional 29 practitioners in England and 203 practitioners in Wales. Support sessions with community nursing SPQ PLPs have also continued into 2025 with some areas having confirmed dates for sessions. To date in 2025 PLP sessions have reached an additional 35 practitioners in England and 35 practitioners in Wales. (See Tables L1 and L 2.)

Table 13 SCPHN PLP (up to March 2025)

Number of registrants attended in each country	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total SCPHN PLP
All SCPHN	872	113	15	326	1326

Table 14 Community Nursing SPQ PLP (up to March 2025)

Number of registrants attended in each country	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
SPQ- DN	438	108	126	68 Total SPQ across Wales <i>Across all practice areas</i>
SPQ- GPN	32	0	0	-
SPQ- CMH	22	12	0	-
SPQ- CLD	12	20	0	-
SPQ- CCN	51	26	0	-
SPQ- HSC	8	0	0	-
Total SPQ	563	166	126	68

9. Summary/outcomes from PLP activity

England has seen wide engagement, with more sessions requested from SCPHN programmes and their PLPs than community nursing SPQ programmes and their PLPs. It is evident that where an AEI reaches out, their PLPs also request facilitated sessions. In Northern Ireland engagement activity has seen equal amounts of activity across all practice areas, including mental health, learning disability and children's nursing as well as district nursing and SCPHN.

Engagement in Wales has been significant with more participants attending for SCPHN than community nursing SPQ events, however this is reflective of the current workforce across Wales.

So far Scotland has seen wider engagement activity for SPQ community nursing PLPs.

Practice learning partners have reported that sessions have helped them feel more cognisant of the standards. Both academics and PLPs like to be in touch with the NMC and report an increased confidence in knowing how and who to contact for any future queries.

10. Collaborative partnerships

We have maximised opportunities to support the implementation of these standards through working collaboratively and supporting partnerships that are in place via organisations such as the Northern Ireland Practice and Education Council for Nursing and Midwifery (NIPEC), the All Wales Collaborative, NHS Education for Scotland and NHS England Workforce, Training and Education.

The devolved nations already had a strong network in place with regular meetings to plan and develop their post-registration programmes across their respective nations, and for developing supporting information and practice assessment documents. Regular meetings with these partnerships took place throughout the transition period.

Engagement in large group collaborative work has proved beneficial in providing consistent regulatory support and clarifications to these wider audiences. This has supported practitioners from practice and academic institutions in building a strong foundation and community of practice in relation to implementing the 2022 post-registration standards within their specific country context for their workforce and the populations they serve.

Table 15 Collaborative partnerships

Country specific collaborative partnerships 2-4 weekly meetings for each group during the two year transition period.
Northern Ireland Practice Education Council for Nurses (NIPEC) NHS Education for Scotland (NES) NHS England, workforce, training and education (NHSE WTE) Health Education in Wales (HEiW)

Table 16 Collaborative partnership data

Collaborative partnerships	2023	2024	Total
Number of participants	415	63	478

11. Publications

As part of the implementation process, it was recognised that AEIs and PLPs would benefit from supporting information published on the NMC website. Recurrent/frequent themes that arose during AEI and PLP drop-in sessions and email queries were noted. These themes provided direction for the development of supporting information that was published in May 2023 and provided via email to all AEI official correspondents and lead midwives for education (LMEs) (see table 17). This resource was updated in November 2023 and again in March 2024 to reflect additional queries and a small wording change in post-registration programme standard 1.1.

Further information was developed and published to guide AEIs into the programme development process and signpost to all mapping across the Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education (SFNME), the Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA), the part 3 standards for post-registration programmes and the post-registration standards of proficiency. This was also circulated via email to AEI Education QA contacts and published on our website in January 2024.

We also sought to increase awareness of the 2022 post-registration standards via publications in professional journals, the aim being to reach registrants who may have not been cognisant through other means. This also provided direct links with these professional journals and has opened up future potential opportunities. Community nursing SPQ practitioners were able to read an article in the British Journal of Community Nursing in January 2024. Similarly, SCPHN practitioners were able to read an article published in the Community practitioner journal in May 2024 (see table 17).

Table 17 Publication list

Publication	Date
supporting-information-for-post-reg-standards.pdf (nmc.org.uk)	Original publication May 2023, updated November 2023, March 2024
post-registration-supporting-info---january-2024.pdf (nmc.org.uk)	January 2024

<p>Partnership working and Innovation- Editorial in British Journal of Community Nursing</p> <p>Robinson and Bliss (2023). Partnership working and innovation. British journal of community nursing, 02 Dec 2023. bjcn.2023.28.12.577</p>	<p>December 2023</p>
<p>NMC SCPHN standards explained- Community practitioner</p> <p>Robinson and Bliss (2024), NMC SCPHN standards explained. Community practitioner, 20 May 2024.</p>	<p>May 2024</p>

Table18 People reached up to March 2025

Group	Number of people reached 2023	Number of people reached 2024	Total people reached March 2025
Webinars	>1000	0	>1000
Launch events	300	65	365
Post registration Drop-in sessions	165	0	165
Approved education institutions (AEI)	679	92	771
Practice learning partners	0	1,917	1.917
Collaborative partnerships	415	63	478
Professional forms	376	217	593
Members of public	15	4	19
Post registration students	90	63	153
Total (excluding webinars and launch events)	1740	2356	4096

12. Ongoing activity

The implementation phase for the 2022 post-registration standards reached over 4000 SCPHN and community SPQ nurses by March 2025. The NMC will continue to:

12.1 Facilitate UK-wide roundtable events that raise awareness of the SCPHN public health nurse pathway and the community nursing SPQ in health and social care.

12.2 Provide ongoing support for AEIs and PLPs who have any queries or may be considering modifications to their existing programmes.

12.3 Acknowledge that there is a recognition from practice providers that practitioners require updates to enable them to feel confident about the 2022 standards and what

they mean for them. We will continue to provide support throughout 2025/26. Being able to facilitate local sessions and workshops provide an overview of the standards relevant to that area of practice and can support targeted continued professional development.

12.4 Support and engage with students on programmes using the 2022 standards – this has already begun and will continue throughout 2025. The aim is that this becomes a continual process, providing opportunity for post-registration programmes and students to engage with NMC. Contact with AEI programme leads to request these sessions with post-registration students has been delivered through professional education forums and national bodies.

12.5 Continue engagement with collaborative partnerships across all four nations.

12.6 Continue with attendance and support at professional conferences – arrangements for conferences including events with Nurse Consultants in Northern Ireland, SAPHNA, CPHNVA and ADNE are already in place for 2025.

12.7 Continue support for AEIs and practice learning partners to enable a smooth supportive transition into the application of these standards across academic and practice settings is provided by the education advisor.

12.8 Continue with the regular drop-in sessions that have been introduced. These will continue to be facilitated by nurse and midwifery education advisers, standard development specialists and colleagues from the Employer Link Service and the education quality assurance team. These sessions will aim to provide opportunity for engagement with stakeholders across all NMC approved programmes, continuing to provide a forum where they can reach out and ask queries within an informal setting. Experience shows this engagement with the NMC is proving to be a real benefit to stakeholders in all settings.

12.9 Increased awareness and opportunities for the public health nurse role in SCPHN through a four-country approach is planned to take place 2025. This is an area for ongoing work as we seek to support AEIs and practice learning partners in raising awareness of the opportunities that undertaking these qualifications could bring, supporting professional development.

12.10 Actively engage with students on post-registration programmes. Following feedback from students, additional workshops have been delivered as supportive resources for post-registration students and practice learning partners (one for community nursing SPQ and one for SCPHN). These were facilitated in partnership with post registration students and practice learning partners. Over 300 people attended the SCPHN workshop and approx. 140 people attended the community nursing SPQ workshop.

12.11 Produce case studies providing examples of learning for SCPHN and community nursing SPQ students are being developed in collaboration with post registration students and published towards the end of 2025.

13. Challenges

Communication has been provided for all AEIs regarding the removal of the previous SCPHN and community nursing SPQ standards for post-registration and the process for them to follow should anyone have any outgoing students on these programmes. Education QA colleagues will monitor this to ensure we are cognisant of any AEIs with outgoing students and when these programmes will close.

A UK-wide approach to events for SCPHN and community nursing SPQ are being planned in the 2025-26 year with our stakeholders. This will provide updates on the implementation of the post-registration standards and an opportunity to discuss how we can support and influence further development of the new health and social care SPQ as well as the less common community nursing field SPQ pathways such as community mental health nursing and community learning disability nursing. The SCPHN roundtable will provide an opportunity to discuss and support the public health nursing part of SCPHN and widen opportunities for the occupational health nursing SCPHN programme. Stakeholders from across the UK in academic and practice settings as well as local government representatives will be invited to be part of the events.

Additional support will be provided on a bespoke basis for any AEI and their PLPs in taking these developments forward.

We will continue to provide sessions for any PLP organisation and AEI who reach out, supporting and influencing these standards alongside the wider work of NMC.

14. Appendices

14.1 2023 Webinar attendance data

Webinars	2022	2023	Total
Attendance figures	.>400	>1000	>1400

14.2 Feedback from AEI colleagues

Feedback from AEI colleagues
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valued opportunity to discuss requirements in Part 3.• Appreciated clarification around the SSSA and post-registration.• QA process could be daunting and challenging.• Valued being able to reach out to NMC advisors for clarity.• Appreciative of support and available.• Resources helpful, but NMC web pages can be difficult to navigate.

14.3 Feedback from registrants at drop-in sessions

Feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcomed the opportunity to access NMC support through these informal sessions (multiple accounts of this).• Found NMC very approachable - this helped dispel myths that NMC were difficult to engage with.• Appreciated opportunity to hear from other areas (AEI and practice) about progress and plans to support programmes and the workforce in embedding the post-registration standards.• Able to discuss how to meet EDI objectives, underrepresentation and self-funding with other AEIs and NMC.• Able to hear some good examples from practice and programmes across UK.• Opportunity to build national networks.• Now understand how to engage with NMC and how to reach out for advice and support.

14.4. Feedback from PLPs

Feedback from practice learning partners and employers

- Found sessions around the standards help them to interpret and apply into daily practice.
- Clarification for SSSA supportive.
- Appreciated support for practice assessment requirements.
- Guidance on how to apply post-registration standards for revalidation was useful.
- Valued being able to access NMC advisors for advice and support.
- Found NMC advisors approachable, providing information in clear way with examples to help identify how these standards are met in practice.
- Can struggle with interpreting and applying the standards of proficiency to the context of practice
- Would like additional support to help apply standards to practice learning and student assessment
- Value NMC colleagues attending workplaces for in person sessions
- Appreciate the responsive approach of NMC Advisors and signposting
- Signposting is useful to help direct to relevant information
- Standards appear repetitive and wordy in parts

14.5. Feedback from the public

Feedback from members of public

- Expressed the value of programmes working with the public to get a true view of people's experiences when working with specialist nursing services.
- Appreciated the regulatory response in ensuring that their views are heard and considered.
- Valued opportunity to share with wider public groups and feed this into regulation and programmes approved by NMC.
- Acknowledged that care can be improved and made fit for purpose when individual needs and accounts become part of a body of knowledge.
- Expressed how they could be involved in programmes to increase student awareness.
- Felt that by being part of recruitment a compassionate workforce would become more the norm.
- Opportunity to improve care was valued across all public representatives.
- Value the roles of SCPHN practitioners although what they can do is often different in reality
- Really supportive of district nurses and the strengths they bring to healthcare
- Community nursing valued highly
- Would like more opportunity to be involved in nursing initiatives and nursing programmes

14.6 Appendix 5. Feedback from post-registration students

Feedback from post-registration students

- Nice to feel heard by NMC
- Like being involved in developments (webinars and case studies)
- Good to see an NMC representative in person
- Like having contact details
- Standards of proficiency can be hard to interpret and appear wordy
- Would like examples to support learning in practice
- Standards of proficiency can seem theory driven
- Case studies to provide examples of learning and mapping to standards of proficiency would be helpful
- A separate post-registration section on SSSA supporting information hub would be easier to navigate and relate to their learning
- Standards can appear complex, the reality of the job is very different
- Proficiencies are not always easy to understand
- Simpler terminology would be better
- NMC web pages are hard to navigate