

## Health Update

### Designated Clinical Officer (DCO) for SEND, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICB



**Carrie James**

#### **Introduction to roles within the Integrated Care Board (ICB) SEND Team.**

I am delighted to introduce myself as the interim Designated Clinical Officer for SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), my colleague Jen is currently enjoying maternity leave.

#### **For more information on my role -**

The role as DCO is varied, I support health colleagues across the [Integrated Care Board](#), Parent Carer Forum, Shropshire Community Health Trust, Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals, Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust and Local Authority to ensure children and young people 0-25 with SEND have the right health support to achieve the best outcomes they possibly can. The DCO role includes working with commissioners and senior leadership teams with regards to meeting and assuring the SEND health requirements, I work with colleagues to improve the Quality of Education, Health and Care Plans and to help ensure the health needs of Children and Young People are met.

#### **My journey so far...**

I joined Shropshire Telford and Wrekin ICB in May 2023 as the Associate Designated Clinical Officer for SEND having moved from a role working as a member of the Senior Clinical Leadership team at Hospice UK, I developed a National Transition Programme and established a network to support learning around the challenges and good practice for supporting Young People transitioning from children's services into adulthood, this involved working closely with Young People to understand their experiences and coproduce resources. I contributed to the review of Together for Short Lives Stepping Up, Transition Pathway for Young People with Complex and Life Limiting Conditions. I have been a Queen's Nurse since 2012, which demonstrates my commitment to improving community services for Children, Young People and their Families. I have worked as a Case Manager in the community setting previously working directly with Children and Young People with SEND. I am a registered Children's Nurse and an NHS Leadership Academy Graduate. Earlier this year, I completed East and West



Midlands SEND Leadership Programme. The role as DCO commenced in June 2024 and my knowledge to date will support me to continue working with the SEND Partnership to further improve the experiences for Children, Young People, and their Families.

**My family and Interests...**

I enjoy quality time with my family, we have two small children. I understand the impact of SEND from a personal and professional perspective. Due to being a mother of two little people, most of my time is spent at soft play when I'm not working. I also love to swim, walk and take time to reset when outdoors where I can.