

SEPTEMBER 2025

REGIONAL UPDATE

East of England Psychological Professions Network



In this East of England Psychological Professions Network update, you can find out more about NHS England's new [Staying Safe from Suicide E-Learning Session](#), confirmed funding arrangements for CAP apprenticeships, and opportunities to support local research.

Scroll down to find out more.

Staying Safe from Suicide E-Learning Session

We have received the following update from NHS England regarding the launch of NHS England's [Staying Safe from Suicide: Best practice guidance e-learning session](#) on Wednesday 10th September.

"This e-learning session is designed to complement our [Staying Safe from Suicide Guidance](#), which was published earlier this year. The guidance reinforces the need for practitioners to stop trying to predict suicide risk, including stratifying risk into high, medium or low. The guidance says that practitioners should take a personalised, or person-centred approach to engage with the person having suicidal thoughts, to reach a shared understanding of factors affecting their safety, and to plan together for staying safe.

Our new e-learning course supports that guidance. The evidence-based training is grounded in NICE 2022 guidance and aligns with the Government's 5-year Cross Sector National Suicide Prevention Strategy.

The e-learning session is specifically designed for mental health practitioners working in the NHS as well as in private, voluntary, and charity care settings. [Registering and signing up to complete the e-learning](#) is simple and available to all colleagues. When colleagues register we would encourage them to add their name and organisation so we can track the take-up of the e-learning, however if that is not possible for everyone then the e-learning can be undertaken without logging a name.

The session provides practical, evidence-based guidance on how to approach and support people to stay safe from suicide, and only takes 75 minutes to complete. It features case study-based exercises that allow practitioners to develop their knowledge and apply the guidance in real-world scenarios. The training covers the key principles of the Staying Safe from Suicide guidance launched earlier this year, and explains the evidence behind the approach, and provides clear implementation strategies.

Participants will learn how to deliver the guidance effectively in their daily work and service delivery, regardless of their specific role or setting.

Where applicable we would recommend including this e-learning session in your safety assessment / safety planning and suicide prevention training in your organisation.

Kind regards

Seamus Watson, National Improvement Director, NHS England (Programme lead)

Dr Adrian Whittington, National Clinical Lead for Psychological Professions, NHS England (Co-chair)

Philip Pirie, Patient and Public Voice (Co-chair)"

Confirmed Funding Arrangements for CAP Apprenticeships

It has now been confirmed that a new Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England (NHSE) funding stream will be available for tuition fees for CAP (Clinical Associate in Psychology) apprenticeship starters from April 2026. The CAP training will continue to be delivered as a Level 7 apprenticeship. This funding will cover the full cost of apprenticeship tuition fees at the current rate; however, no salary support will be provided. Up to 191 trainees per year will be funded across England. The mechanism for accessing this funding is still being developed, with an employer-led expression of interest process expected. Further communications on this are anticipated in coming weeks. This is currently a 3-year envelope, but we are awaiting confirmation on whether all funded learners will be required to complete their training by March 2029, or if some flexibility on this timeline may be allowed.

Please Support Our Local Research Projects

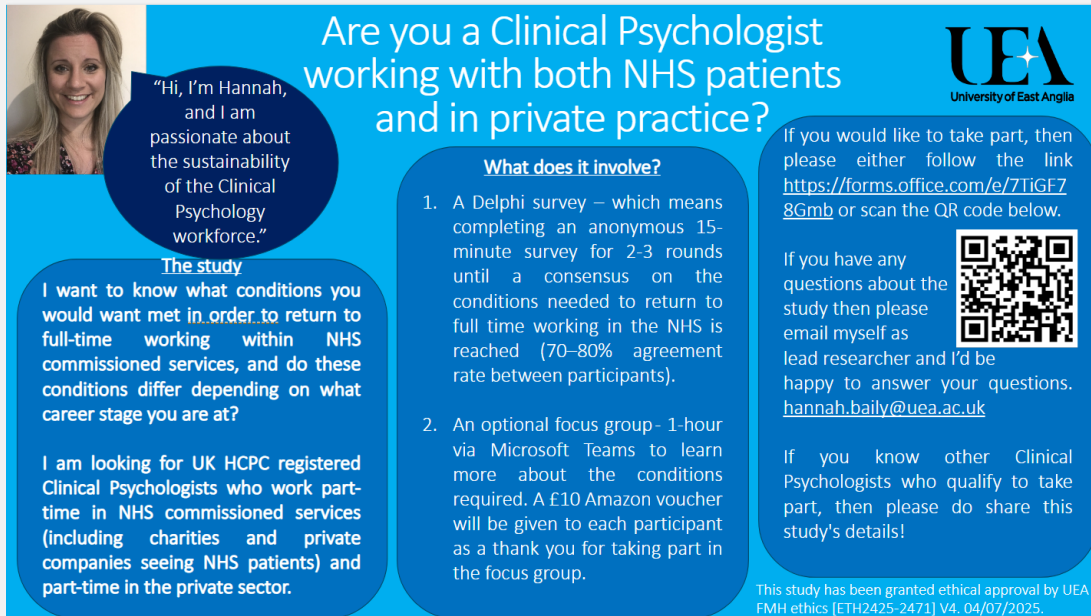
The University of East Anglia (UEA) would like to invite individuals to take part in research as part of their UEA Clinical Psychology Doctoral (DClinPsy) research projects. Both projects are hoping to recruit clinical psychologists and would appreciate any potential participants. Recruitment for both projects is open until the **end of September 2025**.

Hannah Baily's research into: *Clinical Psychology Workforce Sustainability: a Delphi survey and mini-focus groups looking into the conditions needed to return to working full-time within NHS commissioned.*

Hannah's opt-in form link - <https://forms.office.com/e/7TiGF78Gmb>

Tom Westwood's research investigating the: *Experiences of Working-Class Clinical Psychologists in the NHS Clinical Workforce and beyond.*

For more information, please do have a look at the adverts below and get in touch with either of the lead authors, their emails are included on the adverts. Please also feel free to share with other colleagues who you think would like to take part.



Are you a Clinical Psychologist working with both NHS patients and in private practice?

UEA
University of East Anglia

“Hi, I’m Hannah, and I am passionate about the sustainability of the Clinical Psychology workforce.”

The study
I want to know what conditions you would want met in order to return to full-time working within NHS commissioned services, and do these conditions differ depending on what career stage you are at?

I am looking for UK HCPC registered Clinical Psychologists who work part-time in NHS commissioned services (including charities and private companies seeing NHS patients) and part-time in the private sector.

What does it involve?

1. A Delphi survey – which means completing an anonymous 15-minute survey for 2-3 rounds until a consensus on the conditions needed to return to full time working in the NHS is reached (70–80% agreement rate between participants).
2. An optional focus group- 1-hour via Microsoft Teams to learn more about the conditions required. A £10 Amazon voucher will be given to each participant as a thank you for taking part in the focus group.

If you would like to take part, then please either follow the link <https://forms.office.com/e/7TiGF78Gmb> or scan the QR code below.

If you have any questions about the study then please email myself as lead researcher and I’d be happy to answer your questions. hannah.baily@uea.ac.uk

If you know other Clinical Psychologists who qualify to take part, then please do share this study’s details!

This study has been granted ethical approval by UEA FMH ethics [ETH2425-2471] V4. 04/07/2025.

V5.0, Date:03/07/2025,

Are you a clinical psychologist working in the NHS, private sector, or split between the two?

Do you also come from a working-class background?

We are conducting research to explore people's experiences from working-class backgrounds and how it has shaped their personal journey in this profession. We are hoping to hear from people working in the NHS, those working full time privately and those working a split role between the NHS and private sector.

We will be looking to recruit people to take part in interviews via MS Teams and these will take from 60-90 minutes.

In this profession, there is a spread of people from different backgrounds. Our journeys may have shaped the way we are as professionals but also had an impact on our choices and experiences in the field.

If you would like to take part,
please email me to hear more about it.

Lead Researcher: Tom Westwood

Email: T.westwood@uea.ac.uk

This study has been granted ethical approval
by UEA FMH ethics (ETH2425-2463)



Oliver McGowan Code of Practice Published

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published a code of practice on statutory learning disability and autism training. Named after Oliver McGowan, an autistic teenager with a mild learning disability who died in 2016 after having a severe reaction to medication which he and his family had asked for him not to receive, the training aims to ensure that staff working at all levels across the health and social care sectors receive high quality and appropriate training on learning disability and autism. Minister of State for Care Stephen Kinnock said "Our ambition is for the code to guide

our health and adult social care services and staff to have the right attitudes, skills and culture to deliver care and support that is safe, appropriate and tailored to people with a learning disability and autistic people.” You can read it in full [here](#).

Psychological Professions Week 2025

Psychological Professions Week 2025 is coming up on 10th – 14th November, with all seven regional PPNs across England holding events across a range of topics alongside local events from NHS trusts and third sector organisations.

Keep UpToDate with the East of England PPN

Want to find out more about upcoming East of England PPN events, Communities of Practice, and other resources? Check out our [East of England PPN News page](#) for the latest updates.

Interested in Joining the PPN Network?

Anyone can join the Psychological Professions Network! Whether you are a member of one of the psychological professions, another professional of any discipline, an aspiring psychological professional, or a member of the public, you can click [here](#) to sign up and join us for free.

Any information shared by the PPN regarding third-party events or CPD opportunities is solely for informational purposes, and individuals are encouraged to exercise discretion and diligence in assessing the suitability and quality of such offerings. The PPN does not accept responsibility for any third-party events, trainings or CPD opportunities that are shared by the PPN in communications. The PPN does not oversee the management of the content or delivery of the training. Please contact the organisers directly with feedback, concerns, or complaints.

With best wishes,

East of England PPN Team

PPN
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Psychological Professions Network

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Contact us: *LinkedIn:* [Psychological Professions Network East of England](#) |

[LinkedIn](#) | *website:* <https://www.ppn.nhs.uk/east-of-england> | *email:*

hpft.eoepn@nhs.net