**The Scottish Quality and Safety Fellowship – Cohort 17**

Applications are now open for the 17 cohort of the Fellowship programme.

Over 16 successful years the Scottish Quality & Safety Fellowship has developed more than 427 Fellows, enhancing their individual capacity for leadership in patient safety and quality improvement. Every year the programme is assessed with and refreshed to meet the needs of our ongoing national goals and ambitions.

The Fellowship has been developed in partnership with NHS Education for Scotland, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, and NHSScotland Boards. The Fellowship is made up of distance learning, coaching and focused residential workshops covering:

* improvement theory, methods and tools
* project management
* understanding problems with patient flow
* human factors in safety
* measurement for improvement
* reliability, systems, and design for safety
* working with people, motivation and team building, and
* leadership for change
* person-centred care

The Fellowship is built around a series of residential courses, and other educational and networking events. All Fellows will undertake an improvement project throughout their participation on the programme and are expected to work on this as part of their day job. Fellows will be expected to network with colleagues undertaking similar activities in the UK and abroad.

The Fellowship is open to healthcare staff who currently undertake clinical practice and have a direct influence on improving the delivery of safe patient care, as well as staff in clinical professions who do not currently deliver hands-on care but do have a role in improving patient care or safety.

All participants will need the full support of their employing organisation and explicit sponsorship from their Line Manager and Chief Executive. Applications are welcomed from all types of clinical professionals. It is not essential for Fellows to be university graduates; however, the programme requires significant self-directed learning, broadly at the academic level of a taught university course.

Please note that there is the expectation that Fellows will be involved in supporting the Healthcare Quality Strategy, including the Scottish Patient Safety Programme, at local and national level after completing the Fellowship programme.

All International Fellows require funding by their own healthcare system at a cost of 15,000. Costs covered by this include (but are not limited to):

* Venue, accommodation and faculty for residential courses.
* Attendance by any external or international faculty.
* Set reading list.
* Cost of maintaining and improving Fellowship online resources.

Informal enquiries about the Fellowship can be made to:

Ruth Mackie, Quality Improvement Team (qualityimprovement@nes.scot.nhs.uk)