Professional Head of Nursing

Linzie Shone
Nursing

As Professional Head of Nursing, I am the senior operational nurse for the community service group. I hold accountability for each registered nurse in that team, which spans a wide range of nurses including: community hospital wards, nurse specialists, district nursing, theatres and endoscopy, minor injuries and primary care. My days are always varied and interesting. I have set points across the week and month with teams and nurses, different wards as well as speciality nurses. I have responsibility for our standards of care, I feed into a range of local and national groups, working with teams to make positive changes and learn from reviews.

My role is really interesting as I am involved in a wide range of subjects and initiatives. My role makes a difference for patients and I can see the care in action and support the generation of first-hand ideas into quality improvements. I also work with GP clusters and I am able to listen, support and empower our nurses as well as coproducing work and building relationships with a variety of key stakeholders. I feel privileged to be able to use my position to influence change.

I thoroughly enjoy speaking to patients who have experienced care in Powys, both positive and negative. I am incredibly fond and proud of the Powys Teaching Health Board nursing teams. I enjoy working with like-minded people to make a positive difference for our patients.

As a young child, I was quite unwell with pneumonia and I have early memories of being on a ward. So I've wanted to be a nurse, ever since I was 4. After I left school, I went on to complete a BTec National Diploma in nursery nursing. Following this, I worked as a health care support worker to gain experience and a grounding in care. I then started my nurse training in 1993 at the Cardiff University of Wales College of Medicine. I qualified as a nurse in 1996 and moved to Bristol with my husband, where I worked at the Royal Infirmary.

Next on my travels was West Sussex, where I worked in critical care and I enjoyed my time there but I wanted to move back home to Wales. In 2007, I joined Hywel Dda University Health Board at Bronglais Hospital, continuing my work in critical care. I went on to

progress into clinical site management and became a ward manager. Towards the end of that role, I was honoured to receive a Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Wales Nurse of the Year Award for Leadership. This arose from having a great team who were engaged with education and research, using data to drive positive changes.

From there, I secured a senior nurse manager post which covered a range of specialities. This gave me the curiosity to extend my breath of knowledge and learning. In 2019, I moved to Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board as Head of Nursing, covering emergency care, medicine and then surgery. In 2022, I came back to Powys Teaching Health Board to work in my current role as Professional Head of Nursing.

During my career I have been fortunate to access continuing education from ENB100 & 998 to a post graduate certificate in advanced practice and my current studies, an MBA in healthcare management and a Health Education and Improvement Wales advanced clinical leadership course. You could say that life is never dull but what my journey has ultimately led me to understand is that learning is a lifelong journey to enable the nursing profession to push forward and support innovation. Working in the NHS is ultimately a life of service undertaken to improve the life of others through education and support, without prejudice or judgement.