

General Management Graduate

Lauren Price



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I've been lucky enough to see the NHS from very different perspectives in terms of the varied roles I've undertaken. I began my career in the health industry in 2013 where I was employed as a Health Care Support Worker on the bank across the Hywel Dda University Health Board in a purely patient facing role. I then moved to Public Health Wales where my role focused on protecting and improving the health of our communities and from here I was lucky enough to obtain a place on the NHS Wales General Management Graduate Programme.

The Scheme is a two year programme which provides the first step into NHS Wales management and offers the chance to experience three placements across the health board.

I applied for the programme as it felt like a very natural next step for me after finishing my BA degree in Business and Management, not only because it followed a leadership and management trajectory but because it offered an opportunity for development and progression through a wide range of diverse experiences across the whole of the health board in both corporate and operational roles. The programme has offered me the opportunity to make a difference to an organisation I care so deeply about. I have always been interested in the health sector and the people behind it and so was attracted to the opportunity for exposure and learning and development within various areas across a variety of services.

I started the programme back in September 2021 with a two-week comprehensive orientation which gave me a 'helicopter' view across all services and an insight into the key components of how the organisation works. My first placement was within Scheduled Care where I worked closely with the Service Managers and clinicians to support operational activity as well as service development and improvement. I then moved onto my placement within Capital Planning where I actively supported the team by leading on various pieces of work relating to both the Technical Land Appraisal and Clinical Land Appraisal work streams. My final and current placement is within Intermediate Care where I provide support to the ICMDT project manager on service development and service improvement.



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Addysg a Gwella Iechyd
Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

As part of the programme, I have also undertaken an MSc in Applied Health Leadership which was developed for the consortium by HEIW and the University of South Wales and am due to Graduate in Jan 2024.

Since the beginning of the programme back in September 2021, my main goal has always been to fully embrace every new opportunity, to challenge myself in areas that are outside my comfort zone and to become a compassionate leader for the NHS, who strives to create a sustainable, healthy future for our communities.

I have just secured a role within WAST as their Strategic and Transformation Engagement Manager and can't wait to put into practice my newfound knowledge, skills and experience and to embrace the challenges and opportunities my new role will provide me with.

I will be forever grateful for the wonderful opportunity this programme has offered me and I really feel like my dreams are now becoming a reality.