

ALL CONTENT WITHIN WAS CORRECT AS OF 8 DECEMBER 2020

# Enabling positive change in social work

Presentation for Social Work Forum  
8 December 2020

**Ahmina Akhtar- Regional Engagement  
Lead (Y&H)**

[Ahmina.Akhtar@socialworkengland.org.uk](mailto:Ahmina.Akhtar@socialworkengland.org.uk)

Twitter: @AhminaAkhtar



## Our purpose

To regulate social workers in England so that people receive the best possible support whenever they might need it in life.

## Our values

To be fearless, independent, transparent, ambitious, collaborative and to act with integrity.

## Our regulatory approach

### AMBITION

A new regulatory approach - we will learn, reflect and test boundaries.

Collaborate and engage, developing understanding and leadership in regulation.

### SUCCESS

There is trust and confidence in our regulatory approach.

We make a unique contribution to professional regulation.

## Our organisation

### AMBITION

Encourage innovative approaches across all areas of our work.

Promote a positive culture focused on improvement and co-production.

### SUCCESS

Everyone's contribution is valued and celebrated.

People with an interest in social work have a meaningful say in the work we do.

Our organisation



Our regulatory approach



Social Work England

The social work profession



## The social work profession

### AMBITION

Create a different approach to standards and professional development.

Provide a picture of social work in England through intelligence and engagement.

### SUCCESS

Social workers value their professional standards.

A clear and effective post-qualifying system is in place.

## Education and training

### AMBITION

Improve quality and consistency in education and training.

Through collaboration and intelligence gathering, build an evidence base on models of provision.

### SUCCESS

Our new standards have a positive impact on the quality and consistency of training and education.

A strategic and collaborative framework is in place supporting emerging models of provision.

Education and training



People



## People

### AMBITION

Co-produce our work with everyone who has an interest in social work.

Deepen the understanding and value of social work.

### SUCCESS

We are trusted and recognised for our contributions to social work data and learning.

We have improved the perception of social workers.

Our vision 2020 to 2023

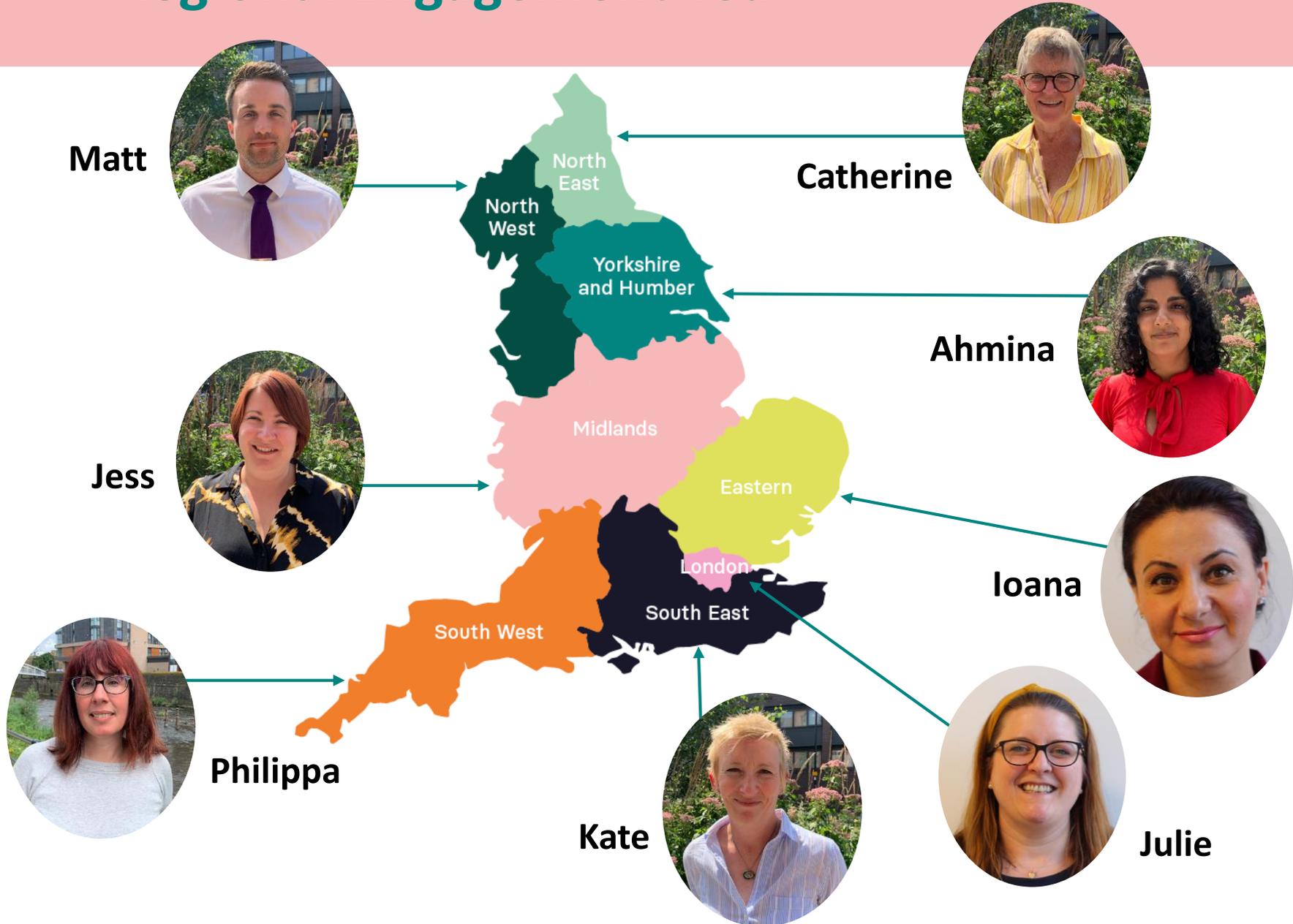
# Regional Engagement Team



**Morwenna**  
Head of strategic engagement



**Jack**  
Participation officer



## • 1 Year Anniversary

“I wouldn’t want to speak for the whole sector, but I feel a stronger sense of professional identity and commitment to the profession with Social Work England.”

Francesca Carpenter, Social Worker and National Advisory Forum Member



# Why is CPD important?

As part of registering with us, social workers must record continuing professional development (CPD). CPD is the reflection and learning activity that social workers undertake throughout their career to maintain and improve their practice.

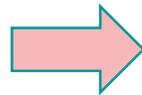
CPD is **part of our professional standards** - the standards necessary for safe and effective practice.

It's not just 'another piece of admin'; it's an essential part of social work.

## Learning



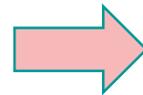
CPD encourages social workers to **make learning an essential part of their work.**



## Growth



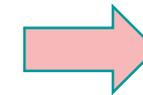
When social workers take time to do CPD, they **reflect on their practice** and the decisions they have made.



## Better practice



Social workers apply this learning, meaning their practice is **grounded in research, reflection, and personal experience.**



## Better outcomes



Through CPD, those with lived experience of social work are more likely to have a **positive experience** that benefits their lives.

# • Research

[The social work profession - Social Work England](#) - conduct a quantitative and qualitative research study on perceptions of social work in England.

[Perceptions of social work - Social Work England](#) - explore and understand knowledge, experiences and perceptions of social work among those who have used its services and the general public.

We're looking for research partners to explore social work education and training. Find out more [here](#). We also want to commission research to learn about people's lived experiences of support from approved mental health professionals (AMHPs) and best interests assessors (BIAs). Find out more [here](#).



# • Consultation

- We are currently preparing for the end of the EU exit transition period and how this might affect our regulation of social workers in England. As of 1 January 2021, there will be changes to our regulations in the way we register applicants from the EU. This means that we have to make changes to our rules and consult on the proposed changes.
- We have launched our [consultation](#) that sets out the changes we need to make to our rules and would welcome your views. If you would like to provide any comments on the changes, please respond using our [online survey](#), or our consultation email address, [consultation.responses@socialworkengland.org.uk](mailto:consultation.responses@socialworkengland.org.uk). The consultation will run until 22 December at 12pm.
- Following the consultation, we will consider responses and publish a consultation response along with the final rules on our website.





# Social Work Week 2021

## 'This is social work'

8 March – 12 March 2021

A major new event in the social work sector calendar



# Objectives



Social Work Week will bring people from the sector together to learn, connect, and engage with their regulator.

To look back at social work in England 2020, collaboratively capturing reflections on the impact of significant events on the social work profession and people. Co-produce a platform for sharing examples of practice innovations, trends, and solutions adopted in social work.



To review the first year of Social Work England's regulatory activity and share lessons learned.

To create a space for the social work sector to describe 'What is social work?', focusing on the professional standards.



To bring those with an interest in social work together to cultivate new relationships for long-term change for social work in England and plan future conferences.

# When? How? Who?

- We will host Social Work Week in the lead up to celebrations on World Social Work Day on 16 March 2021, which recognises the hard work and dedication of social workers on an international stage
- As the first week of its kind in England, Social Work Week 2021 is a virtual programme of events bringing together over 40 activities including thought provoking speakers, artistic content, workshops, debate, discussions, and wellbeing drop ins.
- Social Work Week is **targeted** at anyone with an interest in social work in England, including social workers, people with lived experience, newly qualified social workers, employers, education providers, government and policy officials, stakeholder and partner organisations, students training to be social workers



# Themes

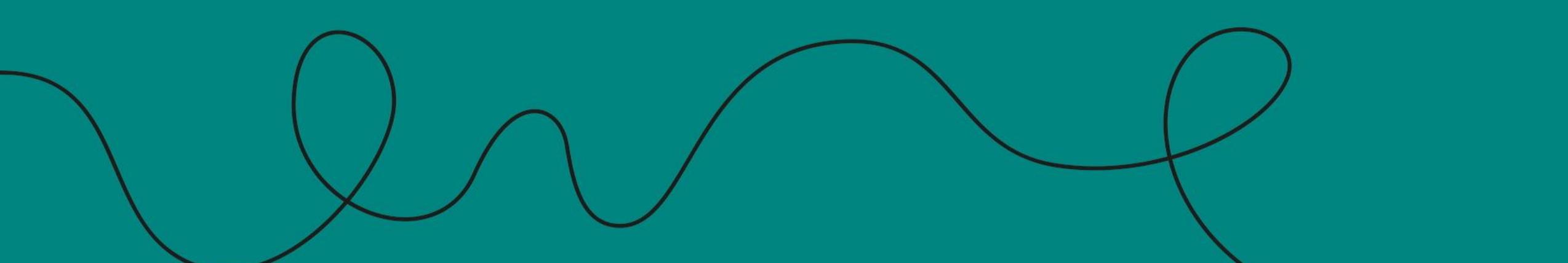
1. Understanding your regulator
2. Social Work and me: living the professional standards
3. Equality, diversity, and inclusion: social work perspectives
4. What next for social work?

**Take part and join us to make Social Work Week 2021 a success!**



The image features a solid green background with two decorative white wavy lines. One line is on the left side, and the other is on the right side, both curving and looping. A thin white vertical line is positioned to the left of the word 'Questions'.

# Questions



**Follow our journey as we grow  
and evolve:**

 [socialworkengland.org.uk](https://socialworkengland.org.uk)

 [Social Work England](https://www.linkedin.com/company/social-work-england)

 [@SocialWorkEng](https://twitter.com/SocialWorkEng)

