



The Allied Health Professions Federation Empowering a Thriving AHP Workforce for a Healthier UK

Background

At the March AHPF Board meeting Steve Ford, Andrew Langford and Jane Pritchard offered to meet with a representative from the AHPF Policy Officer Group, AHPF Health and Care Professions Education Leads, AHPF Scotland, AHPF Northern Ireland and the Wales Manager's Group to develop a statement and set of strategic priorities. These have been developed following a discussion and consultation within each of the groups.

Statement and strategic priorities

The Allied Health Professions Federation (AHPF) is the united voice of 12 UK allied health professions, representing over 180,000 professionals dedicated to transforming lives through expert prevention, care, treatment and supported self-management. We champion the power of collaborative working to drive innovation, influence policy, and maximise the impact of allied health professionals across the health and social care systems. We also provide a space for member organisations to come together to share, learn and grow.

Our strategic priorities are centred on:

1. **Workforce Development:** Ensuring the right professionals are in the right place at the right time. This includes championing robust education, training and research programs, expanding practice placement opportunities, facilitating effective career planning, and fostering pathways to advanced practice. We believe in empowering AHPs at every stage of their career, from support worker to consultant, to deliver the highest quality care.
2. **Collective Influence:** Amplifying the voice of AHPs, with governments, within the NHS, social care and beyond, across all nations of the UK. AHPs have shown that they can lead organisations both in the NHS and beyond and we actively support these leaders, providing them with the tools, resources, and networks they need to maximise their influence. By fostering a strong, unified voice, and working in partnership with others, we advocate for policies and practices that enhance patient care and support the well-being of AHPs.
3. **Data-Driven Insights:** Championing the collection and utilisation of robust workforce data. We are committed to working collaboratively with key stakeholders to improve data collection, analysis, and sharing. Through data-driven insights, we will inform and influence workforce planning, enhance decision-making, and ultimately deliver better outcomes for patients and the health and social care systems.

We are the AHPF and together we are building a thriving AHP workforce that is equipped, empowered, and influential. By harnessing the power of collaboration, embracing innovation, and focusing on data-driven solutions, we are transforming the landscape of healthcare in the UK.

Steve Ford, Chief Executive, Royal College of Occupational Therapists
Andrew Langford, Chief Executive, British Association for Music Therapy
Jane Pritchard, Chief Executive, Royal College of Podiatry