

National Neurology Transformation Meeting 2026

4th February 2026, Macdonald Burlington Hotel, Birmingham

Wednesday, 4th February 2026

- 08:30** **Registration**
- 09:30** **Welcome and introduction: recap on previous meeting**
Dr Martin Wilson, consultant neurologist, The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust and deputy chair, NHSE Neurology CRG
- 09:45** **Strengthening neurology care in a changing NHS: the national neurology service specification**
Dr Niranjana Nirmalanathan, NHSE national clinical director for neurology and consultant neurologist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 10:30** **GIRFT Neurology: reflections and the next phase of work**
Dr Adrian Wills, national neurology co-lead, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Exploring the broader system transformation and its implications for neurology service design, commissioning, and delivery
 - Introduction to the new GIRFT lead and insight into national data, benchmarking, and next steps
- 10:45** **Open Q&A**
Chair: Dr Martin Wilson, Dr Niranjana Nirmalanathan & Dr Adrian Wills
- 11:00** **Coffee and posters**
- 11:30** **Bringing together neurology and stroke care: implications for training and service**
Dr Anthony Pereira, consultant neurologist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Exploring how training and service pathways can improve collaboration between neurology and stroke teams
- 12:00** **Addressing workforce challenges**
Dr Arani Nitkunan, consultant neurologist and neurology lead, Croydon Health Services NHS Trust and co-chair, South West London Neurology Network & Georgina Carr, CEO, The Neurological Alliance
- 12:30** **Open Q&A**
Dr Anthony Pereira, Dr Arani Nitkunan & Georgina Carr

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- 12:45** **Lunch and posters**
- 13:45** **Project session: system level models and service innovations**
Dr Niranjanan Nirmalanathan
- The top 3 will be presented and the winner will be chosen by peers
 - 3 minute presentations from each presenter followed by Q&A
 - Voting opens
- 14:15** **How partnership working between the NHS and the VCSE should mean win, win, win.**
Andy Barrick, CEO, MSA Trust
- Better understanding of rare condition organisations in neurological support
 - How we understand NHS constraints
 - How we might shift to better joint working moving forwards
- 14:30** **Q&A**
Andy Barrick
- 14:35** **Commissioning services for rare & ultra-rare conditions (video presentation)**
Ailsa Willens, deputy director, Highly Specialised Services, NHS England
- Understanding new approaches to the commissioning of complex care and specialised pathways
- 14:50** **Comfort break**
- 15:05** **Project session: winner announced**
Dr Niranjanan Nirmalanathan
- 15:15** **Neuropsychiatry and psychology in neurology care**
Dr Czarina Kirk, consultant neuropsychiatrist, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust & Faye Boucher, patient perspective
- Highlighting the importance of integrated mental health support within neurology services, workforce challenges, and case examples
- 15:50** **Q&A**
Dr Czarina Kirk & Faye Boucher
- 16:00** **Closing remarks & calls to action for stakeholders**
- 16:15** **Depart**

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