



## National Neurology Transformation Meeting 2026

4th February 2026, Macdonald Burlington Hotel, Birmingham

### Wednesday, 4th February 2026

08:30	<b>Registration</b>
09:30	<b>Welcome and introduction: recap on previous meeting</b> Dr Martin Wilson, consultant neurologist, The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust and deputy chair, NHSE Neurology CRG
09:45	<b>Strengthening neurology care in a changing NHS: the national neurology service specification</b> Dr Niranjanan Nirmalananthan, NHSE national clinical director for neurology and consultant neurologist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
10:30	<b>GIRFT Neurology: reflections and the next phase of work</b> Dr Adrian Wills, national neurology co-lead, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Exploring the broader system transformation and its implications for neurology service design, commissioning, and delivery</li><li>Introduction to the new GIRFT lead and insight into national data, benchmarking, and next steps</li></ul>
10:45	<b>Open Q&amp;A</b> Chair: Dr Martin Wilson, Dr Niranjanan Nirmalananthan & Dr Adrian Wills
11:00	<b>Coffee and posters</b>
11:30	<b>Bringing together neurology and stroke care: implications for training and service</b> Dr Anthony Pereira, consultant neurologist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Exploring how training and service pathways can improve collaboration between neurology and stroke teams</li></ul>
12:00	<b>Addressing workforce challenges</b> 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	<b>Open Q&amp;A</b> Dr Anthony Pereira, Dr Arani Nitkunan & Georgina Carr

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<b>12:45</b>	<b>Lunch and posters</b>
<b>13:45</b>	<b>Project session: system level models and service innovations</b> Dr Niranjanan Nirmalananthan <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The top 3 will be presented and the winner will be chosen by peers</li><li>• 3 minute presentations from each presenter followed by Q&amp;A</li><li>• Voting opens</li></ul>
<b>14:15</b>	<b>How partnership working between the NHS and the VCSE should mean win, win, win.</b> Andy Barrick, CEO, MSA Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Better understanding of rare condition organisations in neurological support</li><li>• How we understand NHS constraints</li><li>• How we might shift to better joint working moving forwards</li></ul>
<b>14:30</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b> Andy Barrick
<b>14:35</b>	<b>Commissioning services for rare &amp; ultra-rare conditions (video presentation)</b> Ailsa Willens, deputy director, Highly Specialised Services, NHS England <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding new approaches to the commissioning of complex care and specialised pathways</li></ul>
<b>14:50</b>	<b>Comfort break</b>
<b>15:05</b>	<b>Project session: winner announced</b> Dr Niranjanan Nirmalananthan
<b>15:15</b>	<b>Neuropsychiatry and psychology in neurology care</b> Dr Czarina Kirk, consultant neuropsychiatrist, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust & Faye Boucher, patient perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highlighting the importance of integrated mental health support within neurology services, workforce challenges, and case examples</li></ul>
<b>15:50</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b> Dr Czarina Kirk & Faye Boucher
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Closing remarks &amp; calls to action for stakeholders</b>
<b>16:15</b>	<b>Depart</b>

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