BASHH

SSHA
SOCIETY OF SEXUAL HEALTH ADVISERS
Individual and Public Health

Resilience and Reinvention: A BASHH/SSHA Nursing and Sexual Health Advisers Conference

6th November 2026

Online Event

This programme is subject to change at the Conference Organisers discretion

www.bashh.org

Conference Information

Conference Logistics: bashh-events@moore-insight.com

An inaugural joint nurse and sexual health adviser conference from British Association for Sexual Health and HIV and Society of Sexual Health Advisers, taking place online 6th November 2026.

This one-day conference has been specially designed in response to feedback from nurses and sexual health advisers, focusing on the topics, skills, and discussions that matter most in day-to-day practice. Bringing together professionals from across the field, the event will offer practical insights, shared experiences, and opportunities to connect with colleagues nationwide in an accessible online format.

Programme

Time	Session	
09:00	**Welcome Address** - **Ceri Evans** - Senior Sexual Health Adviser, 10 Hammersmith Broadway Clinic - **Belinda Loftus** – Deputy Director of Community Services, Spectrum Community Health Community Interest Company - **Cara Saxon** - GUM consultant/BASHH President, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde/BASHH	
09:20	**A non-medical workforce for the future; developing the role of non-registered staff** Session Chair: Belinda Loftus - Mapping the Non-Medical Clinical Workforce in UK Sexual Health Services: Key Findings **Lisa Walton** - Advanced Clinical Practitioner in Sexual Health, Derbyshire Community Healthcare Services NHS Trust - From Supporting Role to Centre Stage: Maximising The Potential of HCAs and APs in Sexual Health **Sara Strodtbeck** - Nurse Consultant, Axess Sexual Health Service: University Hospitals of Liverpool Group **Luke Byrne** - Lead Nurse, Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Trust	
10:30	**Complex Partner Notification Case Management** Session Chair: Ceri Evans - **Jo Feaver** - Sexual Health Adviser, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	**Complex Case Management: Genital Dermatology** Session Chair: Jodie Crossman - **Sarah Edwards** - Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV, Suffolk Sexual Health Services
11:15	**Refreshment Break**	
11:30	**Delivering care to people with complex needs** Session Chair: Lisa Walton - Moving forward - Life after Chems **James Mead** - Development Lead – Prevention, The Eddystone Trust - Sex Worker Outreach **Nicki Stewart** - Senior Sister, Umbrella Sexual Health	

12:15	**Care Delivery** Session Chair: Jara Phattey - Motivational interviewing for HIV **Hu Clarke** - Sexual Health Adviser, Homerton - Moving from Vicarious Trauma to Vicarious Resilience **Justine Orme** - Senior Sexual Health Adviser, Brighton SHAC (Sexual Health and Contraception)	
13:00	**Lunch Break**	
13:45	**Innovations in sexual health delivery** Session Chair: Belinda Loftus - Pathway for asylum seekers who disclose sexual assault in ring fenced accommodation **Ellen Hart** - Clinical Nurse Specialist, University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust A Nurse-Led approach to Trans Healthcare. **Polly Zipperlen** - Sexual Health Nurse, University Sussex NHS Foundation Trust	
14:15	**The Changing Role of the Sexual Health Adviser: Who are we and where are we going?** Session Chair: Ceri Evans - STIF SHA Gateway Competencies **Ceri Evans** - Senior Sexual Health Adviser, 10 Hammersmith Broadway Clinic, London - Exploring the Future of Sexual Health Advising: An update on the SHA National Scoping Exercise **Jara Phattey** - Lead Nurse Sexual Health Adviser, Umbrella Sexual Health, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust	**The Changing Role of the Sexual Health Nurse** Session Chair: Jodie Crossman - Advanced Clinical Practice **Alan Haskell** - Advanced Clinical Practitioner, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital - Nursing Associates in The NHS **Daniel Ainsworth**- Senior Sexual Health Nurse, Barts - Clinical Academic Roles in Sexual Health **Matthew Grundy-Bowers** - Consultant Nurse / Professor (HIV & Integrated Sexual Health), Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust / University of Greenwich
15:00	**Refreshment Break**	
15:15	**Developments in Sexual Health** Session Chair: Ceri Evans - Injectable long-acting Cabotegravir PrEP **Dwayne-Wilson Hunt** – Trainee ACP, Chelsea & Westminster NHS Foundation trust - DoxyPEP **Lydia Hodson** – Trainee ACP & Greater Lincolnshire Integrated Sexual Health (GLiSH) - Why Syphilis Needs a New Response Plan **Jodie Crossman –** Doctoral Fellow, UCL	
16:15	**Summary and Conference Close** - **Ceri Evans** - Senior Sexual Health Adviser, 10 Hammersmith Broadway Clinic - **Belinda Loftus** – Deputy Director of Community Services, Spectrum Community Health Community Interest Company	

Speakers

Daniel Ainsworth

Daniel did the Nursing Associate apprenticeship in 2019 and has a background in HIV care. He now works as a Senior Sexual Health Nurse at the Ambrose King Clinic at Bart's.

Luke Byrne

Lead Nurse for Sexual Health, HIV and Community TB Services at Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Trust

Hu Clarke

Hu has worked in sexual health and HIV since 1992, beginning his career managing and training volunteers at Body Positive London during a period of significant challenge and change. Since then, the field has evolved considerably, and Hu has remained committed to improving care, understanding, and support.

He later trained as a psychodynamic counsellor and psychotherapist, developing extensive experience across psychosexual and relationship work, hypnotherapy, LGBTQ+ support and outreach, youth and community services, education, and work with people experiencing homelessness. His professional background also includes supporting drug users, sex workers, and people with learning disabilities. Hu has undertaken Motivational Interviewing training for trainers, so is now a MINT'ee.

Hu currently works part-time as a Health Adviser at Homerton University Hospital in East London. In addition, he provides clinical supervision and support to Sexual Health multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) in Brighton and Crawley. He has recently begun a PhD at the University of Greenwich.

Jodie Crossman

Jodie Crossman is an NIHR Doctoral Fellow at University College London (UCL), with a clinical background in sexual and reproductive health. Her research focuses on sexually transmitted infection prevention, health communication, and improving equitable access to sexual health services. Jodie is currently undertaking a PhD exploring how heterosexual men who have sex with men engage with STI prevention strategies, aiming to better understand prevention needs in this often overlooked population.

Alongside her academic work, Jodie has extensive experience working within NHS sexual health services, has been chair of the STI Foundation and BASHH SHAN SIG and is the current Nurse Representative to BASHH board, as well as being on the editorial board for the International Journal of STD and AIDS. She is passionate about developing the role of nurses within sexual health, reducing health inequalities and supporting innovative approaches to sexual health promotion.

Sarah Edwards

I am a Consultant in GU Medicine and HIV, working in Bury St Edmunds for over 20 years. My special interests are in Education and Genital Dermatology. I have been part of the Dermatology Special Interest Group since its inception, and I have been lead author on the BASHH Balanitis and Vulval Guidelines, IUSTI Balanitis guidelines and a contributor to the BASHH and IUSTI Molluscum guidelines, and I do regular vulval clinics. I have also been co-chair of the Sexually Transmitted Infection Foundation since November 2022, and am currently a Director of Medical Education, as well as Training Programme Director for Genitourinary Medicine in the East of England.

Ceri Evans

Ceri is a Senior Sexual Health Adviser in London and is the current President of SSHA. She is passionate about ensuring that Sexual Health Advisers remain an integral and essential part of the Sexual Health Multi Disciplinary Team.

Ceri is the co-opted SSHA representative on BASHH Board, and the SHA representative on the BASHH Clinical Standard Unit, Education Committee, Sustainability Sig, Herpes SIG and STIF Competency and Foundation groups.

Her particular interests include Partner Notification, working with people with Learning Disabilities, Young People and Pornography and the Criminalisation of STI Transmission.

Jo Feaver

Jo qualified as a nurse (RNLD) and social worker in 2006 in Hertfordshire. She has worked in various settings in the last 20 years including community learning disability services, both charitable and NHS substance misuse services, supporting women working in the sex industry, and developing contraception and sexual health services for men and women who use substance misuse services. She has worked as a Sexual Health Adviser in Eastbourne, England and is now a SHA in Belfast, Northern Ireland having moved here in 2021, and she has a particular interest in supporting people from marginalised patient groups who may find accessing care challenging. She has a husband, and 2 boys (10 and 12) who are VERY loud and full of energy!

Matthew Grundy-Bowers

Matthew has a long history of working in advanced practice, becoming one of the first nurse practitioners in his field in 1997, and consultant nurse in 2005. As an expert practitioner, he continues to work clinically in HIV and Integrated Sexual Health.

He has local/national leadership profiles in advanced practice. He has been Trust Lead Advancing Practice and Non-Medical Prescribing since 2018 and is involved with various national projects with HEE/NHSE, including leading the development of a national ACP curriculum framework for HIV/Sexual health.

Matthew is a former National Institute for Health Research Clinical Doctoral Research Fellow, and as a qualified university educator led the creation of the MSc ACP at City University, and continues to teach on these programmes. He has a national and international publication and presentation portfolio, with 20 peer reviewed publications. He continues to be actively involved with research participating in various national and international research studies, and supports and supervises nurses and other healthcare practitioners undertaking imperial studies. He sits on various local, Trust wide, and national research committees, and contributed to the NHIVNA HIV-nursing research strategy.

In 2020, he was awarded the prestigious Fellowship of the RCN for his contribution to 'HIV/Sexual Health, advanced clinical practice, and interdisciplinary education', and in 2021 was appointed Visiting Professor at University of Greenwich.

Ellen Hart

Ellen Hart is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Integrated Sexual Health at University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust, with 20 years of nursing experience, including 13 years specialising in sexual health.

As a non-medical prescriber and trained coil fitter, Ellen brings extensive clinical expertise across integrated sexual health and women's health and gained valuable experience working within a private menopause service.

Ellen has a particular interest in improving access to healthcare, reducing health inequalities and ensuring that patients receive high-quality, inclusive and person-centred care. She is passionate about delivering services that are responsive to individual needs and about improving outcomes for the communities she serves.

Alongside her clinical practice, Ellen is committed to clinical education and professional development. She is passionate about supporting learning within healthcare while continuing to develop her own knowledge and practice, ensuring she remains at the forefront of delivering safe, effective and compassionate care.

Alan Haskell

I graduated from St George's University in 2010 and began my nursing career as an Acute Medical Nurse, a role I held for two years before moving into Emergency Department (ED) nursing. I subsequently transitioned into Sexual Health in Hampshire, where I specialised in outreach services and supporting vulnerable young people.

During this time, I played a key role in developing HIV prevention services, establishing the first PrEP clinics within the service and training colleagues to undertake PrEP consultations. I later expanded my practice by covering HIV clinics during a period of maternity leave cover, gaining valuable experience in specialist HIV care.

In 2022, I joined Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Building on my clinical experience and commitment to advanced practice, I commenced my Advanced Clinical Practice (ACP) Master's degree in 2023, which I successfully completed in the summer of 2026.

Lydia Hodson

I qualified in London in 2000 having worked the majority of my career in sexual health I came to Lincolnshire in 2017 swapping the single city site for a multi-centre service covering a vast area of city, rural and coastal landscape. I am currently undertaking ACP training at The university of Nottingham and I love working in sexual health with a special interest in Syphilis; as well as the care of the most vulnerable clients be that adults, children or the unborn. Never a dull day!

Dwayne-Wilson Hunt

Dwayne-Wislon (He/Him) is a London-based, Black-British Specialist Nurse at Chelsea & Westminster working in sexual health, HIV and contraception. He is also currently pursuing a Master's at King's College London in Advanced Clinical Practice.

He previously chaired BASHH's Racially Minoritised Communities SIG (2021–2024) tackling sexual health inequalities affecting ethnic minority communities. He won the Royal College of Nursing Rising Star Award in 2022 and has worked with organisations including: WHO, BBC, and LSHTM.

Dwayne-Wilson is passionate about improving sexual health outcomes for communities marginalised by racial barriers and remains committed to advocating for Nurses to make systemic change, through advocacy, education, and clinical leadership.

Connect: https://linktr.ee/mistadee

Belinda Loftus

Belinda has over 20 years' experience in sexual health, having begun her specialist training in 2001 after identifying early in her nursing career that this was the field she wanted to pursue.

She started her career in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, delivering sexual health services to military personnel and their families in the UK and overseas, across both peace and conflict settings.

In 2006, Belinda joined the NHS and has since held a variety of sexual health leadership and clinical roles across the Yorkshire and Humber region, including within Community Interest Companies.

In her current role, Belinda leads a broad portfolio that extends beyond sexual health. While sexual health remains a key focus, her responsibilities also include community clinical services, prevention and outreach programmes, and sexual health services within health and justice settings. Throughout her career, she has remained committed to improving access, tackling health inequalities, and delivering high-quality services that meet the needs of diverse communities

James Mead

Joining The Eddystone Trust as a Community Outreach Worker in 2016, based in Somerset, I worked with communities disproportionately affected by HIV and those facing barriers to maintaining good sexual health, including GBMSM, women involved in street-based sex work, people experiencing homelessness, and swingers.

Moving into the role of Men's Health Worker, I co-developed a project taking a campervan to Public Sex Environments, providing accessible, on-site HIV and syphilis testing to people, many of whom had never tested before. It was through this work that I developed my specialism in chemsex, delivering awareness sessions, one-to-one behaviour change interventions, and group sessions for people wanting to change their relationship with chems.

Since 2020, I have worked as Prevention Lead, with strategic responsibility for The Eddystone Trust's prevention agenda. I have worked alongside substance misuse organisations to develop chemsex interventions informed by lived experience, and led insight projects exploring the sexual health experiences of different communities. This has reinforced my belief that a person-centred, holistic approach is essential.

Justine Orme

Justine has worked as a Senior Health Adviser in Brighton since 2008, with a special interest in safeguarding, and working with both adolescents and survivors of sexual violence.

In addition, she is a qualified Trauma Therapist, working with a diverse client group that includes survivors of sexual violence and abuse, and anyone who has been impacted by trauma.

She has previously spoken at both IUSTI and SSHA about the issue of vicarious trauma in sexual health settings and is passionate about raising awareness to the risks for sexual health professionals, with a view to creating a healthy and happy staff work force, and harnessing the learning to move towards growth and resilience.

Justine is also part of the SSHA OPC.

Jara Phattey

Jara Phattey is a Lead Sexual Health Adviser at Umbrella Sexual Health, with extensive experience in sexual health, HIV prevention, safeguarding, service transformation, and workforce development. She provides strategic and operational leadership across multidisciplinary teams, supporting the delivery of high-quality, patient-centred care while driving innovation and continuous service improvement.

Jara is particularly passionate about reducing health inequalities and improving access to sexual health services for vulnerable and underserved communities. She has led a range of initiatives focused on digital transformation, patient engagement, outreach services, clinical governance, and service redesign to enhance patient outcomes and experience.

An active contributor to national and regional professional networks, including the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH), Jara is committed to advancing the role of Sexual Health Advisers and strengthening the sexual health workforce. Alongside her leadership responsibilities, she is dedicated to education, mentorship, and professional development, regularly delivering training, supporting reflective practice, and championing excellence in sexual health care.

Cara Saxon

Cara is the current President of BASHH and a consultant in Genitourinary and HIV medicine at the Sandyford Sexual Health Services and The Brownlee Centre in Glasgow.

Nicki Stewart

Nikki Stewart is a specialist nurse and currently manages the SAFE Project which is part of Umbrella Sexual Health services in Birmingham. The SAFE project offers a specialist sexual health service for sex workers working or living in Birmingham & Solihull.

Nikki has worked in sexual Health since 1999 and has an interest in providing sexual health and contraceptive services to hard to reach groups using a flexible approach to service delivery and outreach.

Sara Strodtbeck

Sara Strodtbeck is a Nurse Consultant in Sexual Health at Axess Liverpool, with over 30 years' nursing experience, including more than 25 years specialising in sexual health. Her areas of expertise include advanced clinical practice, workforce development, education and service innovation, with a particular interest in developing sustainable models of care and expanding non-medical clinical roles.

Sara has been closely involved in developing new workforce models, growing advanced clinical practice and strengthening education and training pathways within sexual health. She has a particular interest in maximising the potential of the wider clinical workforce, supporting staff to develop their skills and confidence, and creating innovative approaches to delivering high-quality, accessible preventive sexual health services.

Sara regularly contributes to regional and national discussions on sexual health service delivery and workforce development and presents on practical approaches to building resilient, sustainable and future-focused sexual health services.

Lisa Walton	Lisa has over 15 years' experience in sexual and reproductive healthcare, encompassing clinical practice, education, workforce development and service improvement. Alongside her clinical role, Lisa holds several national leadership positions, including Revalidation Lead for the BASHH STIF Steering Committee and Secretary of the Sexual Health Adviser and Nurse Special Interest Group. She has contributed to a number of national professional initiatives, including work supporting the development of resources relating to sexual and reproductive healthcare careers and workforce development. Lisa has undertaken a BASHH Fellowship focused on mapping the UK non-medical sexual health workforce and identifying opportunities to strengthen workforce development and sustainability. Her interests include advanced practice, professional development, clinical supervision, workforce transformation and improving access to high-quality sexual healthcare. Lisa advocates for innovative approaches to education, leadership and workforce development that enable services and individuals to adapt, flourish and remain resilient in the face of change.
Polly Zipperlen	Polly Zipperlen is a senior sexual health nurse with a background in trans healthcare and gender affirming hormone therapy. In addition to complex contraception and STI clinics, Polly is also the senior research nurse on a clinical trial, investigating the usefulness of testosterone alongside standard HRT in menopause care.