



Morag Dorward

AHP Lead for C&YP NHS Tayside

What does your current role involve?

I am a strategic leader and manager of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy services for C&YP. This includes improvement work locally and working nationally (in Scotland) to influence policy and legislation.

What was your first role after graduating?

Community therapist for all client groups in Midlothian, Scotland. This was a very isolated post with a different clinic, school or home visit to do each half day with monthly contact with other therapists.

At what stage did you decide which area of the profession you wanted to work in?

It took a number of years of working across both children or adult services to decide finally on children with specialism of ASD and MH.

How did you progress from your first role to your current job?

I worked in SLT clinically in Scotland and New Zealand, then moved into job share management of SLT. From there worked at Scottish Government for a year followed by a project management role for long term conditions before returning to AHP land SLT land, then AHP leadership and management roles

How have you used CPD to help you progress in your career?

I was active in RCSLT CENs, attended courses, supervision and mentoring and peer review, reading research articles. Studied to gain MSc in integrated service improvement. Took part in a range of leadership, change management and complex systems change training courses.

My advice to students looking to get into my current area of work:

You have to look outwards beyond your clinical practice to pay attention to policies and politics. Talk with your manager of your interest and arrange work shadow to gain further understanding. Read/attend training on leadership and change.

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