

**Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Midwifery Officer Awards**

1. The Chief Nursing and Chief Midwifery Officer awards have been developed to reward the significant and outstanding contribution made by nurses and midwives in England and their exceptional contribution to nursing and midwifery practice. In today’s NHS nurses and midwives undertake a wide range of specialist roles including running clinics, undertaking procedures and caring for people from the beginning to the end of life. These take place in a variety of settings: hospital wards, A&E, mental health services, community nursing, primary care. Nursing and midwifery professions continue to evolve thanks to nurses and midwives in clinical academic careers.
2. These awards recognise the enormous range of skills, expertise, and enduring compassion that modern nursing and midwifery represent. They celebrate nurses and midwives who go above and beyond their everyday roles to provide excellent care, leadership and inspiration to their colleagues and patients.
3. Criteria for receiving gold and silver awards are outlined below. Criteria, eligibility and process have been developed to ensure that recipients are recognised by the nursing and midwifery community for their excellent contribution to improving nursing and midwifery practice.
4. Each award recipient will be encouraged to become a Nursing / Midwifery Ambassador[[1]](#footnote-2); a role that involves taking every opportunity to raise the profile of the nursing / midwifery profession both in the public arena and within the workplace with midwifery staff, students and colleagues to help improve and transform the perception of the midwifery profession.

**Silver awards**

1. **Criteria for silver awards** 
   1. The silver award recognises performance that goes above and beyond the expectations of the everyday role that the nurse or midwife is expected to perform in their current role
   2. Nurses or midwives who demonstrate excellence in clinical practice; education, research, patient and carer experience, leadership, tackling diversity and health inequalities. In the case of midwives, supporting women, new-borns and families.
   3. Demonstrates leadership in the development of services for patients resulting in improvement of service provision performance.
   4. Provides consistently outstanding care which is recognised by a patient or service user and colleagues.
   5. Champions diversity and inclusion in clinical practice and with colleagues.
   6. Demonstrates clinical leadership in the area of practice, this can be evidenced in leading teams or delivery of care.
2. **Eligibility for silver awards**
   1. Current registration with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC).
   2. Nominations must be submitted and approved through the process below.
   3. Either an individual or a team may be nominated for a silver Chief Nursing Officer or Chief Midwifery Officer award.
   4. Individuals must meet the principles of the fit and proper person test and not subject to any disciplinary or regulatory action.

**Gold awards**

1. **Criteria for gold awards**
   1. The gold award is for outstanding achievements, and performance demonstrated by a nurse or midwife, in their sphere of practice. This may be clinical practice, education, research, leadership. The award recognises the exceptional contribution by an individual with a distinguished career in nursing or midwifery.
   2. This individual is a role model for others, achieving the highest standard in their area of clinical practice and has made a significant contribution to the quality of care received by patients and their families.
   3. This may include having had significant impact on health within a community – eg addressing health inequalities.
   4. This individual has demonstrated innovative practices / entrepreneurship within their area of practice.
2. **Eligibility for gold awards**
   1. Nurse or Midwife with current NMC registration.
   2. This may only be awarded to individuals not teams.
   3. Nominations must be submitted and approved through the process below.
   4. Individuals must meet the principles of the fit and proper person test and not subject to any disciplinary or regulatory action.

**Process**

1. **Process for gold and silver award nominations**
   1. Nominating organisation completes the form (Annex 1). All nominations require two signatures.
   2. Nominations require a signature from the Chief Nurse / Director of Nursing or Director / Head of Midwifery.
   3. They require a second signature which can include a line manager or member of the senior nursing /midwifery team or Human Resource manager.
   4. Where possible nominations should also be signed by Trust CEO.
   5. All completed nominations will be reviewed and approved by NHS England and NHS Improvement Senior Management team for Nursing and Midwifery.
   6. Gold awards will be presented by the Chief Nursing or Chief Midwifery Officer.
   7. Silver awards may be presented by Chief Nursing Officer, Chief Midwifery Officer, DCNOs, Regional Chief Nurses or Regional Lead / Chief Midwives (as appointed).
   8. When a team (10 maximum) of registered nurses or midwives has successfully been nominated for a silver award, all members will receive an award.
   9. Communication/Media
      1. All award recipients will be listed on the CNO / Chief Midwifery Officer pages on the NHS England website.
      2. @teamCNO will promote via social media using appropriate images and hashtags (#thankyoumidwife / #thankyounurse) with consent from recipient.
      3. An announcement will be made in the CNO bulletin.
      4. Recipients will be sent a digital certificate.
      5. Recommended text to include in recipient email signature and twitter profile – *Gold / Silver Chief Nursing/ Midwifery Officer Award winner 2020*
      6. Support award recipient’s own media - e.g. with supporting statement from Chief Nursing or Chief Midwifery Officer.

**When returning the form please copy in your Regional Chief Nurse for their information.**

**If you have a query about process or criteria in relation to a nomination you wish to make, please contact us at details on the nomination forms.**

**Annex 1 – Silver Award Nomination Form**

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| **Details of person making nomination** | |
| **Full Name** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Contact details (email and phone)** |  |
| **Name and title of counter signature** |  |

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| **Details of the award nominee** | |
| **Full Name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Ethnicity\*** |  |
| **Home address** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Band** |  |
| **Length of service in post and NHS** |  |
| **Contact details (email and phone)** |  |
| **Nomination rationale (500 words)**  Guidance notes for the nomination rationale:   1. The rationale should focus on the needs and impact of the nominee.   How were things before they began? How are they now? Why are things better? What has changed?  2. Please provide enough context for the reader to under why the impact was significant as they may not have much knowledge of the field. Why does this work matter? Why does this achievement set them above others in the field?  3. Be clear on whether someone’s activities were their paid role or in addition to it (including voluntary work).  What are they doing that makes them outstanding? How are they going above and beyond what they are expected to do? What are they doing differently?  4. Focus on their recent achievements (past 5 years) and their impact. The rationale should not be an extended CV or list of achievements. The nominee must still be active in the field.   5. Give examples of how they have demonstrated outstanding quality and the difference that their contribution has made. Providing evidence of impact will help to make the case for an award.  General advice: Start with a sentence that summarises the impact that the nominee has had, follow up with the most recent and greatest achievement, provide evidence to support the case. Include one or two further examples whether appropriate to demonstrate how the nominee is outstanding.  Please ensure that supporting evidence can be supplied upon request. | |

**Form submission**

* **A Chief Nursing Officer award** nomination should be sent to the office of CNO at: [jemma.cinalp@nhs.net](mailto:gemma.bullen@nhs.net)
* **A Chief Midwifery Officer award** nomination should be sent to the office of CMO at: [chiefmidwifery.office@nhs.net](mailto:chiefmidwifery.office@nhs.net)
* **Nomination emails should be marked ‘CNO / CMO award nomination – Confidential’**

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| Office use:  Award type:  Event:  Date:  CNO / CMO or SMT member:  Demographic/Diversity assessment: |

**Annex 2 - Gold Award Nomination Form**

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| **Details of person making nomination** | |
| **Full Name** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Contact details (email and phone)** |  |
| **Name of counter signature** |  |

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| **Details of the award nominee** | |
| **Full Name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Ethnicity\*** |  |
| **Home Address** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Band** |  |
| **Length of service in post and NHS** |  |
| **Contact details (email and phone)** |  |
| **Nomination rationale (500 words)**  Guidance notes for the nomination rationale:   1. The rationale should focus on the needs and impact of the nominee.   How were things before they began? How are they now? Why are things better? What has changed?  2. Please provide enough context for the reader to under why the impact was significant as they may not have much knowledge of the field. Why does this work matter? Why does this achievement set them above others in the field?  3. Be clear on whether someone’s activities were their paid role or in addition to it (including voluntary work).  What are they doing that makes them outstanding? How are they going above and beyond what they are expected to do? What are they doing differently?  4. Focus on their recent achievements (past 5 years) and their impact. The rationale should not be an extended CV or list of achievements. The nominee must still be active in the field.   5. Give examples of how they have demonstrated outstanding quality and the difference that their contribution has made. Providing evidence of impact will help to make the case for an award.  General advice: Start with a sentence that summarises the impact that the nominee has had, follow up with the most recent and greatest achievement, provide evidence to support the case. Include one or two further examples whether appropriate to demonstrate how the nominee is outstanding.  Please ensure that supporting evidence can be supplied upon request. | |

**Form submission**

* **A Chief Nursing Officer award** nomination should be sent to the office of CNO at: [jemma.cinalp@nhs.net](mailto:jemma.cinalp@nhs.net)
* **A Chief Midwifery Officer award** nomination should be sent to the office of CMO at: [chiefmidwifery.office@nhs.net](mailto:chiefmidwifery.office@nhs.net)
* **Nomination emails should be marked ‘CNO / CMO Award Nomination – Confidential’**

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| **Office use:**  Award type:  Event:  Date:  CNO / CMO or SMT member:  Demographic/Diversity assessment: |

1. The ambassador roles involve raising the reputation and awareness of the significant contribution nurses and midwives make to safer patient care. Awardees will be contacted with further information by the NHS England perceptions team. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)