

# Speaker Biographies

## Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Stakeholder Conference 2019

### **Nick Smith**

#### **National Support Manager, Scottish Government**

Nick started his career as a Youth Worker in South London. Since that time he has worked in housing support, as an alcohol/drug worker in a children and families project, a residential rehab service and a community alcohol/drug project. He worked as a Commissioner in Surrey Alcohol and Drug Partnership in England for 7 years and in 2010 he joined Edinburgh ADP as Coordinator. He is currently working as National Support Manager in the Scottish Government supporting the implementation of Rights, Respect and Recovery and the Alcohol Framework. He has an MSc in Evidence Based Alcohol and Drug Policy and Interventions.

### **Louise Feenie**

#### **Alcohol Harm Prevention Team Leader, Scottish Government**

Louise joined the Scottish Government in 2000, just after Devolution. She has worked in a range of policy areas, including environmental protection and housing supply, before starting Health in 2010 to take up the diet policy brief. In 2013, Louise moved to lead the Alcohol Team, working to introduce minimum unit pricing on 1 May 2018, followed by the new preventative Framework for alcohol in November 2018.



### **Eric Carlin**

#### **Director of SHAAP (Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems)**

Eric Carlin has been Director of SHAAP, since 2012. Previous positions have included Chief Executive of two London-based drug charities, commissioning and delivering NHS services in London and managing an international HIV/AIDS project manager for the British Red Cross. Eric was formerly a member of the UK Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, Chair of the English Drug Education Forum and Vice Chair of the United Nations NGO Committee on Drugs. Eric was awarded a PhD in Youth Studies from the University of London in 2017. He is a Teaching Fellow in the Medical School at Edinburgh University, where he is Convenor of 'Sociology of Health and Illness', part of the Masters in Public Health programme. He also has a Masters in Public Service Management and a History undergraduate degree.



### **Suzy Calder**

#### **Head of Service—Drugs and Alcohol Recovery Service / Prison Health Care NHS Highland**

Suzy has worked in NHS Highland since 2003. Prior to that she spent 11 years working in Tayside within both the alcohol and drug treatment services and managing an employability project. Suzy moved to Highland where she took up the role as Strategy Co-ordinator within the Alcohol & Drugs Partnership before returning to services in 2011. Currently the Head of Service – Drugs & Alcohol Recovery / Prison Healthcare, she is also in the process of taking on management for Police Custody Healthcare and the Forensic Medical Examination service. Suzy is passionate about providing high quality care and the role of quality improvement in the ongoing development within a recovery service.

**Michaela Jones**  
**National Lived Experience Development Officer**  
**Scottish Recovery Consortium**



Michaela began her own recovery journey in June 2008 and took over as the Content Editor for the Wired In To Recovery Online Community in late 2009. She then took charge of running all aspects as Community Director until March 2013.

From 2013 she ran in2recovery, a multi-media organisation focusing on raising awareness of recovery. During this period she undertook a range of recovery related activities, including asset based community development; building networks; mentoring; training; peer support, advocacy and recovery project work for various clients, including Greater Manchester West Mental Health Trust, West Yorkshire Fulfilling Lives, Scottish Recovery Consortium, Sheffield Alcohol Support Services, Durham Drug and Alcohol Action Team, PHE, Addaction, cgl among many others.

In April 2018 Michaela joined the Scottish Recovery Consortium (SRC) as their National Recovery Community Development Officer. And in December 2018 she moved into a new position at the SRC as National Lived Experience Development Officer.

This role focuses particularly on developing the capacity of people with Lived Experience to engage in policy and strategy development and in developing, designing and delivering treatment, recovery and advocacy services, interventions and approaches – in line with the new Scottish Government Strategy Rights, Respect and Recovery.

Michaela is interested in all aspects of the Recovery Movement but gravitates particularly towards increasing the visibility of people in long-term recovery.

Michaela would describe herself as a “recoverist”.

**Sharon Pflieger**  
**Consultant in Pharmaceutical Public Health**  
**NHS Highland / Robert Gordon University**



Sharon initially qualified as a pharmacist working in the fields of community pharmacy, academia and industry. She quickly realised that her interests lay in the “bigger picture” and studied Public Health. Sharon is now a registered generalist specialist in public health as well as a registered pharmacist. She currently works in NHS Highland in Inverness as a Consultant in Pharmaceutical Public Health and also teaches Pharmaceutical Public Health with The Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen. She has worked on problem drug and alcohol use issues throughout her career setting up some of the first needle exchange programmes and oral replacement therapy schemes in community pharmacies in the NHS.

Sharon is here today as part of the One Health Breakthrough Partnership for which she is leading a programme of work in NHS Highland to reduce the impact of pharmaceuticals on the environment and mitigate the challenges of climate change. She hopes that her presentation will introduce some new ways of considering how climate change and substance use are entwined.

Sharon would be delighted to answer any questions on her presentation or hear of related areas of work. She can be contacted by emailing [sharon.pflieger@nhs.net](mailto:sharon.pflieger@nhs.net)