

# Community Advanced Practice Project

October 2022 – March 2023

The North West Faculty for Advancing Practice

## Project outline

### Background and aims

The NHS had the opportunity during 23-24 to address the continuity for patients from acute to community through advanced practice roles and ensuring career progression for those in the community.

Evidence strongly suggests that ICSSs, providers and the associated infrastructure is not currently in a state of readiness to identify and support staff ready to take up advanced practice training and roles across the professions and services, at the scale needed. Furthermore, the training programmes are not in all cases, tailored to the needs of the different professional requirements of community staff.

The faculty for Advancing Practice were allocated £80K to support a step change in developing the advanced practice pipeline of staff within the community setting.

The aim was to build relationships and provide professional leadership with key stakeholders that were developing new models of care in the community.

7 organisations were successful to deliver this project in specific agreed areas. The organisations utilised experience Advanced Practitioners to cover the below areas:

	Areas covered			
<b>Cheshire and Merseyside</b>				
Zoe Ahearne	Cheshire West	Cheshire East	Halton	
Venessa Ramnath	Wirral	Sefton	Liverpool	
Clare O'Neill	Warrington	St. Helens	Knowsley	
<b>Greater Manchester</b>				
Jennylea Gray	Manchester	Trafford	Bury	
Karen Fern	Stockport	Tameside & Glossop	Oldham	
James Fletcher	Bolton	Wigan	Salford	Rochdale
<b>Lancashire and South Cumbria</b>				
Grace Leedham			Blackburn with Darwen	
Karen Keating	South Cumbria	Lancashire		Blackpool

## Outcomes and engagement

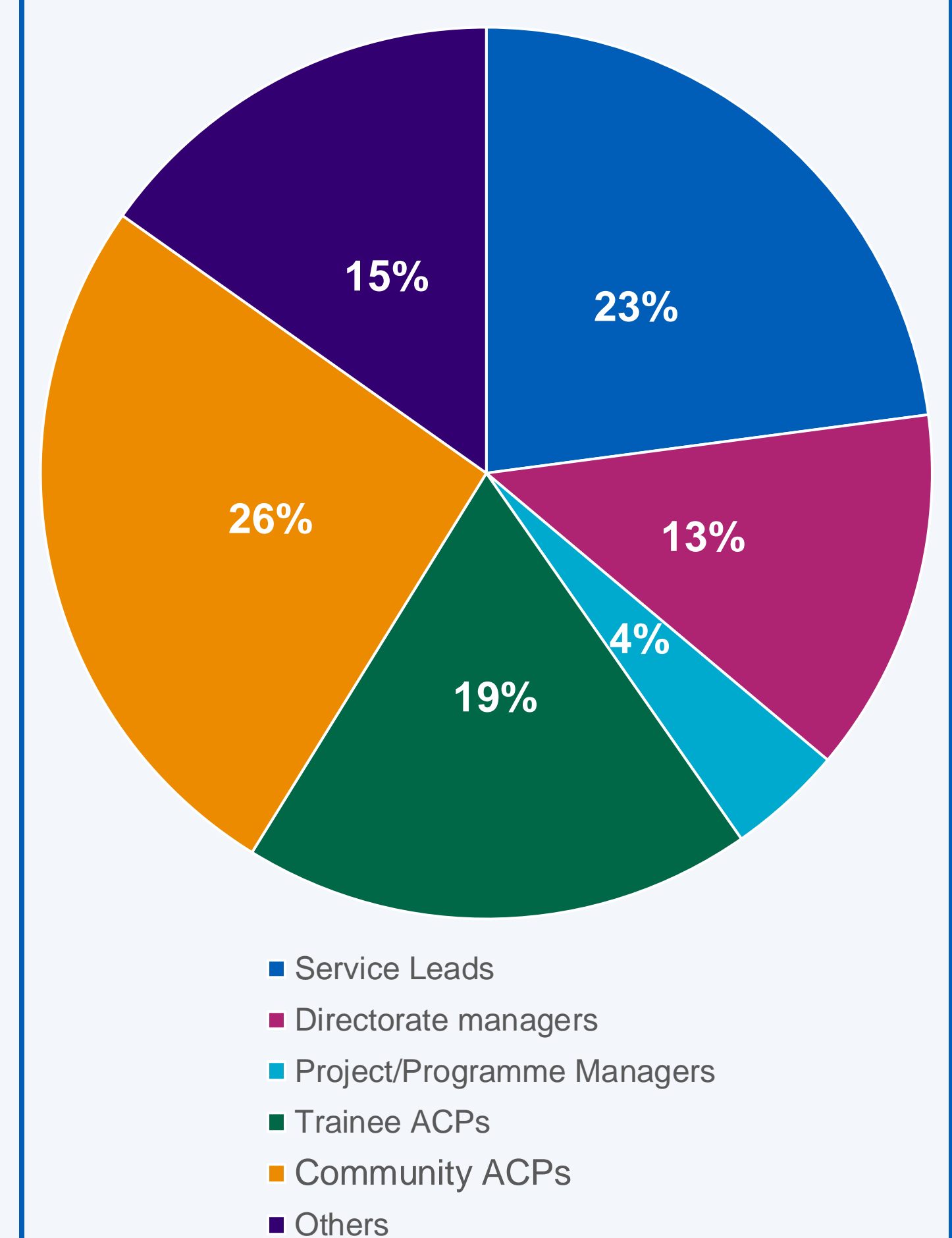
747 contacts were made throughout the project.

454 total activities were undertaken which included:

- Webinars
- 1:1 conversations
- Teaching sessions
- Trainee discussions
- Email exchanges

	Total Number
Total identified that are suitable for e-portfolio	64
Total identified that has put in an Expression of Interest in for 23/24 Funding	20
Total identified that are going to look at submitting for funding from HEE 24/25	15

Breakdown of 454 activities by job role



## Benefits to systems, patients and workforce

### Promoting AP in the Community

The North West Faculty for Advancing Practice funded an exciting project to develop the future growth of Advanced Practice roles within community services.

The aim of the project was to provide multi professional leadership through 8 ACP Community Advisors who contributed to the workforce transformation, growth and implementation of ACPs roles across community services through:

- Advising stakeholders on high quality ACP care in community.
- Supporting sustainable workforce supply, training, and education.
- Supporting providers to identify staff already working at an advanced level of practice that may be supported to undertake the HEE e-portfolio route.
- Preparing providers to transform services and to aid the implementation of advanced practice roles across the North West within the community services.

The project stimulated many conversations and ideas that had previously not been explored. Sharing of examples of good and innovative service development enabled the breadth of community advanced practice to be considered and the potential of practitioners both from Community and non-Community settings to undertake training to become Advanced Practitioners.

Further information regarding the project and its outcomes are shared via the Faculty website.

## Recommendations

### Challenges and Opportunities

#### Challenges of Implementation and growth of advanced practice in community services

- Understanding of the role of advanced practitioner in community services
- Funding for permanent workforce
- Trained supervisors - medical and existing advanced practitioners in the community
- Workforce and job planning
- ARRS role funding being time limited
- In integrated services being recognised as part of an NHST Trust Advanced Practice team
- Limited development opportunities beyond training
- Advanced Practice programmes having little / no content or understanding related to the community setting
- Appreciation of AHPs working as advanced practitioners in community settings
- Pathways to gaining recognition of education and training and receiving the Digital Badge by the centre for advancing practice

#### Opportunities for growth and innovation in community services

- Networking opportunities for existing advanced practitioners in community
- Sharing examples of good practice and service redesign / development
- Continued conversations and support by the Faculty following the project and the community advisors
- Interest to (exploit) develop the advanced practice role for service need.
- Support those already working at an advanced practice level to gain recognition through the e-Portfolio route acknowledging the role within community