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| The following are questions that we have been asked and that may be helpful for you and your team | |
| 1 | What is a hackathon? |
|  | A hackathon is an event where diverse groups of people work on finding solutions to a problem or issue. It’s virtual, meaning that you don’t necessarily have to be in the same physical place - groups of people within a particular sphere of interest will work together using a range of online platforms to collaborate with one another.  This hackathon will be proposing ideas for improving the perception of nursing and midwifery to system leaders (people like politicians, chief executives) and influencers such as how the professions are portrayed in the news, on fictional television programmes, and on social media. |
| 2 | What is the process to apply? |
|  | You can register your team’s interest to join the Hackathon [on our platform](https://nhs70.crowdicity.com/post/520792). |
| 3 | Who can join the team? |
|  | Any grade of nurse or midwife in any clinical specialty can be in the team. Other members of the multi-disciplinary team, including health care workers and students, who want to support changing perceptions of nursing and midwifery can be in the team.  You may want to ask other colleagues from your organisation to be available to help your team at various times during the hackathon, for instance a communications specialist or a strategy leader.  Our advice is to seek diversity of background, experience and views within the team. Diverse teams generally perform better in hackathons. |
| 4 | How big does the team need to be to take part? |
|  | We advise the team has between four and 10 members. |
| 5 | Do I have to be working on this for all of the 30 hours? |
|  | No. You, or a representative of the team, will need to attend the scheduled sessions. Beyond that, the time over the two days is yours to manage. |
| 6 | Do I do the hack in my own time or as well as my job? |
|  | You will need to agree the time you can take out of your day job with your team’s sponsor and your line manager. We have written to Chief Nurses (and related posts) requesting that at least two members of the team are released from clinical duties to participate in the hackathon. |
| 7 | Where is it being held? |
|  | The hackathon is virtual – this means we will be connecting and collaborating using digital online platforms. You will be able to choose the best place for you and your team, which could be a meeting room in a hospital, a virtual space for a chain of nursing homes or a local GP practice coffee room. |
| 8 | What resources will I need and where will I get them from? |
|  | You will need:   * technical equipment such as a means to record and edit video (you could use a video camera, iPad, or smartphone) * Internet connectivity to be able to join Zoom and webex * Pens, papers, post-its and other materials for creative thinking |
| 9 | Do I need permission to join in? |
|  | You will need to get the explicit support of your organisation’s Chief Nurse (or appropriate senior leader). We also advise that you seek the support and involvement of your organisation’s Communications team beforehand. |
| 10 | Can anyone be the team’s sponsor? |
|  | Your team’s sponsor needs to be someone of appropriate seniority within your organisation and who will help you to leverage engagement and resources. |
| 11 | How do I get my coach |
|  | After you register your interest you will have a call with Horizons team and be allocated a coach suitable to the challenge you wish to hack and the support you feel you need. |
| 12 | What will happen to my team’s solution after the hackathon? |
|  | All of the solutions will be included in a national report for others to consider. In addition, your organisation could develop your team’s further. |