

**NAMITA GUPTA PURI**  
**FINANCIAL PLANNING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS BUSINESS PARTNER**  
**CENTRAL LONDON COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST**



### CAREER STORY

I am currently the Financial Planning and Special Projects Business Partner for Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) NHS Trust.

I have graduated with a first-class honours degree in Economics and Business Finance and am ACCA qualified. I have been working for the NHS since 2011 where I started my career as a trainee accountant for the London Ambulance Service. For the large part of my career, I have worked for CLCH (since 2012), starting in the role of a Junior Finance Analyst. At this time, I was at the professional stage of my ACCA qualification. CLCH supported me by providing study leave and funding for tuition courses and exam fees. As I progressed towards the exams and through on the job learning, I was successful in moving to a Senior Finance Analyst role. After becoming a qualified accountant, I moved to commissioning as a Finance manager for six months before moving back to CLCH in the Head of Financial Analysis role. This role was challenging as it required managing a team of junior and senior finance analysts and redesigning processes within the financial management function. To enable me to do my role more effectively, the trust provided funding for me to complete a change management course. This provided me with key tools to use when making significant changes to processes and how to manage staff through these changes. I had support and guidance from my manager where we discussed the potential impact of changes and issues faced through regular catch ups.

At the end of 2017, I went on maternity leave. Whilst on maternity leave, my manager kept me informed of any changes happening in the trust. We also met through keep in touch days which we had at regular intervals throughout the year. During this period, an opportunity came up for the Financial Planning and Special Projects Business Partner role which I applied for and was successful. My new manager helped with a smooth transition back to work and agreed for me to initially come back part time, working four days a week. I have been in this role since then and have enjoyed the varying responsibilities and challenges. In this role, I have had the opportunity to be the finance lead for the Brent and Harrow tender which was really good experience.

My key areas of responsibilities are building the financial model for the annual financial plan submission, trusts' medium and long-term plans, reporting of the trust QIPP position (internal and external) and pulling together finance reports for QIPP and the Apprenticeship Levy. Another key aspect of my role is having the ability to successfully build relationships with colleagues from the finance team, transformation team, NWL ICS, NWL shared procurement service and outsourced provider Capita.

I am responsible for the development and delivery of a full day finance training session for the internally run Deputy Team Leader Supervisor Programme and provide business case training. This has enabled me to achieve Level 3 FACE (finance and clinical education) status. I have recently completed a Level 7 Strategic Healthcare Leadership course which was funded by the trust. This has provided me with key tools on the various leadership styles, how to create resilience in a complex and changing environment like the NHS and the best approach towards coaching/mentoring.

I am a member of the Women in Leadership Network where I have been able to share ideas and personal experiences on how we can encourage and support women at work. I have had the opportunity to attend webinars which focus on encouraging women to take on leadership roles.

I have felt like a valued member of the finance team and have had excellent career progression while working at CLCH, being promoted internally. I have been included on interview panels for both senior and junior roles. I have had many opportunities to reach my full potential through on the job development, PDR reviews, regular one to ones, attending external training courses and my manager having confidence in me to complete challenging tasks.