



The voice of nursing in the UK

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### Professional Membership Structure and Rationalisation of Forums Projects

As you will see from the attached consultation document we will be putting our final proposals on the Professional Membership Structure and the Rationalisation Project to Council in October 2008 for approval. Before then there is one further consultation round and a final opportunity at the AGM in Liverpool in October to discuss the proposals with Council Members.

The proposals have come out of a series of consultations the Governance Support Committee and Forums Governance Group have held over the past year.

Over the past year we have implemented a new reporting and decision-making framework and have opened up the Council Committees to non-Council Members. This together with a new project based way of working is enabling us ensure that our priority setting and decision making is informed by members from both the professional and representative arms of the organisation in a way that has never been possible before.

All along the way we have listened to the comments we have received and in many cases built them into our thinking. For example we are recommending that there should be a UK Coordinating Committee in the same way as we have UK Stewards, Health and Safety and Learning Representatives Committees. This is something that the Forum Chairs feel very strongly about.

Once the framework was in place the Forums Governance Group started its work to rationalise the current list of Forums and Sub Groups. This task was never going to be easy but we have been incredibly grateful to the Forum Chairs for the constructive way they have worked with us. We tested our proposals with Forum Chairs at their meeting in July and they gave us their general support for the way forward we are proposing.

We very much look forward to receiving your comments and would be grateful if you could send any feedback to Jane Clarke/Joanne Davies at the address above by 1 September 2008.

Stacey Hunter  
Chair of the Forums Governance Group

Robert Sowney  
Chair of the Governance Support Committee

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