

Role Descriptor: International Committee Member

Title: International Committee Member

Reporting To: Council

Basis: In accordance with RCN Appointments Policy and Processes, International Committee Members are appointed for a four-year term.

Time commitment (including meetings): The estimated time commitment for International Committee Members is a minimum of 6 days per year. This includes formal planned and ad hoc meetings, reading papers, contributing to RCN policy, RCN position statements and contributing to consultations from global partnership organisations. The RCN International Committee meets at least 4 times per year in person, hybrid or online. The majority of in person meetings are held at RCN HQ Cavendish Square, London).

Expenses: Committee members may reclaim all travelling and similar expenses, in line with the RCN expenses policy.

Eligibility: The eligibility requirements applicable to the roles on the International Committee are set out in the RCN Elections Policy and Processes document. Depending on the category of member, different criteria apply.

Purpose of the role

International Committee Members fulfil a vital role in ensuring the Committee achieves its objectives, as determined by its terms of reference. Under the leadership of the Chair of the International Committee, International Committee Members have a collective duty to be responsible and accountable to Council in fulfilling their delegated duties.

In accordance with its terms of reference, the purpose of the International Committee is to provide expert advice to RCN Council, the Professional Nursing Committee, and the Trade Union Committee and staff, for delivery of the RCN's international strategy in order to meet Schedule Rule 2.1 of the *Royal Charter* to ensure delivery of the following Royal Charter objects:

To promote through the medium of international agencies and otherwise the foregoing purposes in other countries as well as in Our United Kingdom.

International Committee Members should not involve themselves in the day-to-day operations of the RCN, but may, from time to time, work with RCN staff members to achieve results. When representing the RCN in a public space in their capacity as a International Committee Member, International Committee Members should ensure that their actions do not bring the RCN and profession

into disrepute, and they should take care not to take public positions contrary to those of the RCN.

Key responsibilities of the role include:

- Monitor and advise Council on the RCN's alliances and partnerships, including the benefits of membership to the International Council of Nurses.
- Supporting the RCN in promoting high standards of care, influencing policy and advocating for better working conditions for nurses and nursing globally, as well as for internationally educated nurses and diaspora nurses in the UK.
- To provide direct advice and insight into international issues to influence the programme work of RCN Council, the Professional Nursing Committee, and the Trade Union Committee, and to ensure that the international dimension of all activity is taken into account.
- To provide and facilitate proactive access to networked intelligence and insight from international policy and practice solutions for applicability to the UK and/or relating to global health goals, including to strengthen understandings of implications and learning for the UK.
- Providing a global input into the direction of the vision and strategic aims of the RCN.
- Acting as an advocate and ambassador for the RCN and nursing among members, the wider public and a broad range of stakeholder organisations including formally representing the College at stakeholder and other events and meetings which are held in furtherance of the RCN's strategic aims.
- Accepting collective responsibility for the decisions reached by the International Committee, including advice and recommendations to Council.
- Engaging with members and ensuring that their feedback is taken into consideration during International Committee discussions in the interests of furthering the RCN purpose for the membership as a whole.
- Attending International Committee meetings as set out in the calendar of meetings, reading meeting papers in advance and participating constructively in debates about matters concerning the nursing profession in the four countries and internationally.

- Committing to induction and learning and development opportunities in order to perform effectively as an individual and as part of International Committee.
- Bringing impartiality and objectivity to meetings and decision-making, and contributing to the creation and maintenance of an inclusive and open culture.
- Maintaining up-to-date declaration of interests for publication on the website
- Fostering and maintaining constructive working relationships with fellow members of International Committee, Chair of International Committee, Vice Chair of International Committee, and the staff leads to ensure that roles are understood and responsibilities are met.
- Upholding the values, decisions and policies of the RCN, acting with integrity and committing to the highest standards of behaviour as set out in the RCN Respect Charter and Code of Conduct.
- Demonstrating a strong commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).
- Undertaking other specific activities on behalf of the RCN as discussed and agreed with the Chair of Council and the Chief Executive & General Secretary.

#### Person specification:

All International Committee Members must be able to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and values.

1. experience of working internationally or supporting nurses in low resource settings.
2. previous experience of working with non-governmental organisations or in international health development of similar initiatives/programmes
3. a sound understanding of nursing and health issues across the UK and internationally.
4. an understanding of, and commitment to, the RCN, its purpose, its work and its role as a Trade Union and a professional membership body and Royal College.
5. an active commitment to the RCN Respect Charter, EDI and the Nolan Principles.

6. knowledge and understanding of the principles and practicalities of effective governance in a large organisation.
7. a willingness and ability to devote the necessary time and effort.
8. a readiness to take and be accountable for decisions.
9. understanding of governance, management and leadership.
10. integrity and commitment to act in the best interests of the RCN without regard to personal interest or benefit.
11. objectivity, fairness, independence of mind, integrity, wisdom, discretion, and good judgement.
12. the ability to give direct and honest opinions and add value to decision making by offering different perspectives and constructive suggestions.