

RCN Advanced Nurse Practitioner Forum Steering Committee Strategy Day Meeting Notes

Date: 19 March 2026


Time: 11:00-16:00



Room: Sarah Swift room G01 – RCN HQ

<p>Attendees</p> <p>Sharlene Hogan (SH) (Chair) Adele Parsons (AP) (Vice Chair) Maria Betts (MB) (virtual) Joanna Das (JD) Jennifer Riley (JR) Mithun Thampi (MT)</p>	<p>Staff</p> <p>Denise Alexis (DA) Michelle Raddings (MR) Wendy Preston (WP)</p>
<p>Apologies</p> <p>Katie Brown (KB)</p>	<p>Guests</p> <p>Edith Donnelly (ED) Sally Faley (SF) Wendy Irwin (WI)</p>

No	Time	Item
1.	11:00	<p>Welcome and apologies (SH)</p> <p>SH welcomes the steering committee to their 2026 strategy day meeting with a roundtable introduction from the committee.</p>
2.	11:10	<p>Minutes of last strategy day (ALL)</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Key Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full voting allocation achieved

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Learning & wellbeing session delivered successfully ○ Resolution raised regarding Physician Associates and impact on advanced practice ● Apprenticeship Funding (Level 7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public funding withdrawn Jan 2026 for most Level 7 apprenticeships ○ Mitigating funding secured until 2029 for critical roles (ANPs, District Nurses) following RCN action ○ Ongoing uncertainty beyond 2029; universities reporting reduced course viability ● ICN & International Representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strong ANP representation at ICN Congress (Helsinki) ○ UK advanced practice showcased positively at international level ● ANP Conference 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Virtual conference well attended with strong feedback ○ Demonstrated sustained appetite for A&P-specific professional events ● Credentialling decommissioned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NMC regulation of advanced nursing practice planning in progress and principles published. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DA to share RCN credentialling webpage: https://www.rcn.org.uk/Professional-Development/Professional-services/Credentialling
3.	11:30	<p>Forum Chairs Update (SH)</p> <p>SH gives a synopsis of current work.</p>
4.	12:00	<p>RCN Updates (WP)</p> <p>WP gives an update on her role in the RCN Institute of Nursing Excellence which entails cross working within two academies, Practice and Workforce and the current work of each academy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professional Framework

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corridor Care • Band 5-6 career progression <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>RCN ANP forum strategy day - slides.p</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious concerns raised regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BMA survey and activity ○ NMC position statement lacking explicit reference to autonomy • Potential implications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Undermining advanced nursing practice across all settings ○ Risk to patient access, service delivery, and workforce sustainability • Consensus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This represents a strategic and existential risk to advanced-level nursing ○ Requires proactive evidence, advocacy, and preparedness <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WP to send committee 'speak up for safe staffing survey' deadline 29th March 2026. (posted to FB page) ➤ Forum will be included in RCN activity re these e.g. regulatory consultations. ➤ Forum work related to the value and impact of advanced nursing.
5.	12:30	<p>Congress 2026 (ALL) https://www.rcn.org.uk/congress/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Members reminded to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complete registration ○ Confirm voting days via Chair link ➤ ANP Forum to maximise presence through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinated speaking on debates

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear allocation of agenda items to committee members ○ ANP forum t-shirts ○ Clear messaging about ANP role and value ○ World Café/Forum stand targeted interaction rather than passive presence <p>Priority Congress Debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Council resolution on protecting advanced nursing practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair to act as second ○ Recognised as a likely “big debate” with media interest <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All Congress-attending members to review agenda items in advance and nominate speaking topics: https://www.rcn.org.uk/Congress/Agenda ➤ Produce ANP Forum T-shirts (bright colour) for Congress – JD ➤ Include QR code linking to Forum web page - AP <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>ANP QR code</p> </div>
6.	13:30	<p>RCN Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy – Wendy Irwin, Head of Equality and Inclusion</p> <p>Wendy gave an informative presentation on the RCN EDI strategy.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>EDI Strategy Presentation.pdf</p> </div> <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of accountability mechanisms (equality impact assessments) • Opportunity to strengthen Forum governance through EDI oversight

		<p>Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominate an EDI lead within the steering committee to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain focus across all Forum activities ○ Advise on inclusive language, representation, and policy impacts
8.	14:00	<p>2026 objectives, workplan and responsibilities (ALL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What are our priorities and key work streams and who will lead each? ➤ Presence: Social media, and blogs https://www.rcn.org.uk/Get-Involved/Forums/Advanced-Nurse-Practitioner-Forum ➤ Membership engagement ➤ Expectations of the steering committee ➤ FCC bids (project) <p>Cross Forum Project: “The Impact of Advanced Level Nursing”</p> <p>Aim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a robust, evidence-based narrative demonstrating the value, safety, and outcomes of advanced-level nursing across: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acute care ○ Community & district nursing ○ Primary care ○ Mental health ○ Children & young people ○ Independent sector <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCN evidence report / repository • Academic publication (submitted to peer-reviewed journal) • Policy briefing material • Conference and Congress content • Resources to support members in evidencing impact locally

		<p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to be submitted to FCC (Forum Coordinating Committee) funding round. <p>Consensus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is essential regardless of regulatory outcomes • Will support both defensive advocacy and future workforce planning <p>Communications & Digital Engagement</p> <p>Platforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nest (RCN community platform) identified as future primary engagement space • Facebook and MCC (member communications) to continue as signposting tools <p>Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on quality engagement, not volume • Prepare content (blogs, evidence, updates) ahead of Nest launch • Refresh Forum web page as central linking hub <p>Agreed Priorities for 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect and evidence advanced level nursing practice (All) ➤ Deliver FCC-funded cross-forum impact project (SH/AP/JR) ➤ Successful Congress 2026 engagement and debate leadership (All) ➤ Hybrid ANP Conference Oct 2026 (MB/SH/JR/JD) ➤ Strengthen digital and member engagement (All) ➤ Embed EDI accountability across Forum work (All) ➤ Update forum webpage (JR/JD) ➤ RCN Forum focus magazine/ other publications (All)
9.	15:00	ANP 2026 Conference – Sally Faley, Business Events Manager

		<p>Conference Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date: Friday 2 October 2026 • Location: RCN HQ – Cowdray Hall • Format: Hybrid (in-person + online) • Capacity: Up to 150 in person <p>Proposed Theme: “The Impact of Advanced Level Nursing”</p> <p>Key Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary sessions only (no breakouts) • Strong speaker line-up (clinical, policy, leadership, research) • Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motivational keynote speaker (All) ○ Mental wellbeing / resilience session ○ Policy or parliamentary guest speaker (subject to availability) <p>Conference Planning Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharlene Hogan • Maria Betts • Additional volunteers welcomed <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme template and past evaluations to be circulated (SF) • Monthly planning meetings to be scheduled (SF) • Save the date and promote via social media and the members communication centre (SF/SH)
10.	15:45	AOB
11.	16:00	Meeting close