Midwifery Forum Committee Charter
'Achieving more together'

Forum philosophy:	Forum remit:
The RCN Midwifery Forum is a network of RCN members who together share a wide range of midwifery expertise and practice. We aim to advocate for women, their babies and families and for the professionals delivering midwifery care and working with colleagues across a wide range of midwifery, nursing and healthcare. We wish to be as inclusive as possible, whilst working collaboratively with the wider health and social care team. As midwives we represent the RCN's pool of professional expertise and knowledge. As part of the wider midwifery and nursing family, the forum welcomes membership from a wide and diverse workforce.	Support professional learning and the development of midwifery practice. Provide midwifery expertise and input to the RCN. Work in partnership with other national and international stakeholders, to share best practice, shape midwifery and to influence the future of midwifery. Work with the ICM to address global challenges and issues facing midwifery and midwives. Support RCN activities through income generation. Ensure the dissemination of relevant information to the midwifery community. Develop and produce evidence based standards and guidance that support midwives (and nurses working in maternity services).

Committee deliverables:
• Raise the profile of midwifery, including increasing forum membership
• Contribute to the national midwifery agenda, represent the RCN at appropriate national and international events and strategic steering groups

Forum member roles and responsibilities:

Name	Role	Specific responsibilities
Yvonne Bronsky (Scotland/UK)	Chair	Areas of interest: leadership, quality improvement and women centred care
Andrea Stebbings (South West)	Member	Areas of interest: professional regulation, professional advocacy, interprofessional learning, leadership and clinical practice.
Angela Cartwright (West Midlands)	Member	Areas of interest: public health, improving outcomes and CPD
Wendy Olayiwola (London)	Member	Areas of interest: public health, midwifery advocacy, community
Kiara McElroy (Northern Ireland)	Member	Areas of interest: raising profile of midwifery within the RCN, CPD, maternity advocacy, supporting student midwives and newly qualified midwives, ensuring TOP managed safely in Northern Ireland

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Forum operating guidelines:	
Emails	Clear subject headings including stating a response required by a specific date. If email is urgent or a response is required urgently then phone or text to be used.
Progress updates	Progress updates to be given at bi-monthly teleconferences
Teleconferences	Held every two months One hour long Meeting to follow set agenda Minute taker from steering committee to be nominated at start of meeting Minutes to be sent to coordinator to be formatted and shared with wider group
Action plans	Each project lead to develop action plan (as per agreed template) for each project. To be kept updated and shared with project group.
Frustrations with other members	All members to raise concerns with the chair who will address as required with Professional Lead
Honesty	All members to be open and honest with each other and to share as early as possible if unable to deliver on agreed actions due to unforeseen circumstances. Align tasks to member's strengths and provide regular constructive feedback to each other to enhance the working of the forum.
Profile	All members to raise profile of the forum by responding individually to requests from the RCN
Horizon scanning	All members to bring to the forum, topics of potential future relevance for discussion and prioritise as required.

Forum review and learning process:	
Review of team effectiveness – internal • Feedback from forum steering committee members following each meeting and teleconference on areas that worked well and areas that could be strengthened for great effectiveness • Annual strategic review of the forum in terms of its strategy, roles and responsibilities	**Review of team effectiveness – external** • Feedback on the evaluation of events and publications • Use of social media for communication and feedback • Increased midwifery membership

Find out more about the forum and get involved by following us
www.rcn.org.uk/midwifery-forum
www.facebook.com/groups/RCNMidwiferyForum
Twitter @RCNMidwives