



Council

Minutes of the open meeting of Council held on Thursday 23 April 2015 at RCN HQ, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN

Present:

Michael Brown	Chair, Scotland
Lors Allford	Vice Chair of Council, South West
Kevin Bell	Northern Ireland
Tracey Budding	West Midlands
David Cardwell	Health Practitioner
Gill Cort	East Midlands
Sylvia Duval	Student
Rachel Greaves	South East
David Harding-Price	Honorary Treasurer, East Midlands
Gaynor Jones	Wales
Anne Kennedy	Yorkshire & the Humber
Joanne Kerr	North West
Gordon Lees	Northern
Brendan McIlmurray	Health Practitioner
Stuart McKenzie	Chair of RCN Congress (non-voting)
Andrew Nelson	Northern
Ian Norris	London
Andy Patrick	Scotland
Sylvia Simmons	South East
Christine Thomas	Wales
Roy Tomlinson	Yorkshire & the Humber
Mike Travis	North West
Sue Warner	West Midlands
Anne Wells	Eastern

Secretary to the Council

Dr Peter Carter OBE

Executive staff in support of the meeting:

Jane Clarke	Director of Governance Support
David Cooper	Director of Human Resources, Estates and Organisational Development
Chris Cox	Director of Legal Services
Janet Davies, FRCN	Director of Nursing and Service Delivery
Tina Donnelly, CBE	Director, RCN Wales
Tim Golbourn	Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Fiona Johnson	Director of Communications

Agenda Item 3.1

Tom Sandford, FRCN
Janice Smyth

Director, RCN England
Director, RCN Northern Ireland

Speakers and observers

Bernell Bussue
Sheila Marriott
Jeannett Martin
Lorraine Ozerovtich
Harvey Morgan
Glen Turp

Regional Director, London
Regional Director, East Midlands
Regional Director, South West
Member, observer
Council review group, observer
Regional Director, Northern and
Yorkshire & the Humber
Regional Director, West Midlands
Regional Director, Eastern
Interim Operations Manager, North
West region

Paul Vaughan
Karen Webb
Paul Wood

Staff in support of the meeting:

Carolyn Croton Governance Administrator
Megan Evans Governance Adviser

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence**

- 1.1 The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence had been received from Cecilia Anim, Carol Evans and Brendan Garry.
- 1.3 Margaret North Council Member, South West and Professor Rod Thomson FRCN were unable to take part in the meeting by teleconference because the system was not working.
- 1.4 Theresa Fyffe, Director RCN Scotland and Patricia Marquis, Regional Director, South East were also unable to attend.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting on 22 April was agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 2.2 Arising from Minute 3.4 Fiona Johnson, Director of Communications confirmed that tracking of the pledges that parliamentary candidates had made as part of the Nursing Counts General Election campaign was in hand and would be reported on at future meetings.
- 2.3 Further to Minute 4.49 Council noted that MEPs had not yet voted on the issue at the European Parliament.

3. **Declarations of interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.

4. Report of the Confidential meeting

- 4.1. Council agreed the report from the confidential meeting that had been held on the previous day subject to adding reference to the special meeting of the Membership and Representation Committee that had been called for August 18th to discuss the Trade Union Bill and the RCN response to the three consultation documents.

5. Update from the Chief Executive & General Secretary

- 5.1. The Chair of Council formally thanked Dr Peter Carter for the very significant contribution he had made to the College as Chief Executive and General Secretary for the past eight years and wished him well for the future. In response Peter Carter confirmed that his last day at the RCN was 31 July and he thanked Council members for their support during his time at the College.
- 5.2. Peter Carter reported on a meeting he had had earlier that week with Sir Andrew Dillon, Chief Executive of NICE, when he raised the issue of safe staffing. Council noted that there were still no details available.

6. Reports

Nursing Practice and Policy Committee

- 6.1 Ian Norris, Chair of NPPC, reported on the key outcomes from the meetings held on 9 July 2015. He reported that the Committee had:
 - been updated on the End of Life Care project and given feedback on the resources that were launched at Congress
 - agreed its priorities for the coming 12 months in the context of a presentation on the policy landscape following the General Election
 - also had a presentation on health and social care integration across the four countries.
 - discussed the Shape of Caring Review and noted the various RCN work-streams that were being aligned to the recommendations of the review including in particular the clinical leadership programme; the mentorship project and the work to develop a fellowship model
 - considered the findings of the NMC revalidation pilots and the RCN response to the NMC consultation which closes in October

Membership and Representation Committee

- 6.2 Anne Wells, Chair of MRC, gave an update on the key items that had been addressed at the meetings on 8 July 2015. She explained that the budget announcement was being made at the same time as the committee was meeting and the Committee had been briefed as far as possible at the time on the challenges that lie ahead.
- 6.3 Council noted that the Committee had
- discussed the RCN's negotiating position on pay and agreed to continue to support a four country position and to make it clear that the RCN would not be willing to trade unsocial hours' payments for a pay deal
 - agreed its priorities for 2016 and discussed how it would continue to work with the chairs of the Trade Union Governance Group and the UK representative committees to bring all the work programmes in line with the Council priorities for 2016
 - debated the pressing need to recruit and retain more representatives and agreed that it was very important to ensure that representatives were well supported with the right resources and training to respond locally to the priority areas.
- 6.4 Council agreed two changes to the *Definitions of Membership* document to:
- amend the definition of health practitioner membership to acknowledge the Scottish Social Services Council; and
 - enable those who are on a return to practice course to pay the student membership payment plan to enable them to re-register with the NMC.

International Committee

- 6.5 The Council noted that the International Committee had met on 21 May 2015 when it:
- was updated on the Commonwealth Nursing and Midwives Federation (CNMF) European Regional conference and plans for the CNMF conference next year which is due to take place in London. It was noted that the Committee had agreed to submit

Agenda Item 3.1

abstracts on the RCN Zambia Union of Nurses Organisation (ZUNO) project, revalidation and ward leadership

- had received a presentation on the European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA) meeting in Riga
- was briefed on the World Health Organization's health strategy for 2020 which includes the four strands of: education, skill mix, positive practice environments and evidence-based research and
- received a report from European Federation of Nursing Associations (EFN) and discussed arrangements for the next European Nursing Student Association (ENSA) meeting which was taking place in London.

Ethics Committee

- 6.6 Council noted that the Ethics Committee had met on 30 April 2015 when it had focussed on the committee's plans for two events – a workshop with the Defence Nurses Forum on 5 November and the first annual meeting on its network on the 11 September.
- 6.7 It was noted that the committee was also working on a narrative and recommendations to be included in the RCN response to the NMC pre-registration and nursing education revalidation pilots and the Shape of Caring report on what should be taught in terms of ethical training as part of a pre-registration programme.

Health Practitioner Committee

- 6.8 Brenda Mcilmurray Chair of the Health Practitioners Committee reported on the key outcomes from their April meeting. She reported that the Committee had:
- discussed the findings of market research undertaken to inform the RCN's new HP marketing campaign
 - received a presentation on the Care Certificate and the impact evaluation for the First Steps resource
 - considered how best to increase HP membership and participation in the forums

Students Committee

- 6.9 Sylvia Duval, introduced the report of the meeting of the Students Committee on 8 May 2015 and updated Council on

Agenda Item 3.1

- the new process for recruiting and supporting Student Information Officers
- plans for a new clinical skills survey to evidence the skills possessed by student nurses when they leave education, and the skills they required in the workplace
- the affiliate membership with the National Union Students and future plans for joint working

6.10 Council congratulated the students on the contribution they made to the Congress debates that year.

Students Governance Group

6.11 Council noted that going forward the meetings of the Students Governance Group were being held at the end of the meetings of the Students Committee.

Fellows Coordinating Committee

6.12 Jane Denton, Fellows Convenor introduced the report of the meeting of the Fellows Coordinating committee held on 5 May 2015. She highlighted that the Fellows had hosted the launch of the End of Life Care resources at Congress and that the focus of the full Fellows meeting in November would be revalidation.

National Pensioners Convention

6.13 Council noted a report from the RCN's representatives on the National Pensioners Convention on the 2015 Pensioners Parliament and the fringe meeting they hosted at RCN Congress 2015 when Dot Gibson, NPC General Secretary was the key speaker

President

6.14 Council noted a report from President Cecilia Anim on her activities since the previous meeting.

Deputy President

6.15 A report from Professor Rod Thomson, FRCN Deputy President, was noted on his activities since the previous meeting.

RCN Foundation – Looking forward and working together

6.16 Robert Sowney, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the RCN Foundation joined the meeting to present his annual report to Council and to update Council on the work of the Foundation.

6.17 Ian Norris thanked Robert Sowney for his work as the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Agenda Item 3.1

6.18 Robert Sowney thanked Peter Carter for his support for the Foundation.

Close of meeting

Date of next meeting: 3 December 2015

Megan Evans

Governance Adviser

020 76473659